THE

HISTORY

AND

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY

OF THE

COUNTY OF KENT.

CONTAINING THE

ANTIENT AND PRESENT STATE OF IT,

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL;

COLLECTED FROM PUBLIC RECORDS,

AND OTHER AUTHORITIES:

ILLUSTRATED WITH MAPS, VIEWS, ANTIQUITIES, &c.

THE SECOND EDITION,

IMPROVED, CORRECTED, AND CONTINUED TO

THE PRESENT TIME.

By EDWARD HASTED, Esq. F.R.S. and S.A.

LATE OF CANTERBURY.

"*Ex his omnibus, longe sunt humanissimi qui Cantium incolunt.*"

"*Fortes creantur fortibus et bonis,*

"*Nec imbellem feroces progenerant.*"

VOLUME V.

CANTERBURY:

PRINTED BY W. BRISTOW, ON THE PARADE.

M.DCC.XCVIII.

BRITISH
MUSEUM

TO

CHARLES SMALL PYBUS, Eſq.

ONE OF THE

RIGHT HONORABLE THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HIS MAJESTY's TREASURY,

AND MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE TOWN AND PORT OF DOVER, &c. &c.

SIR,

YOUR partiality to a county, of which this is a Hiſtory, has given me hopes, that the Dedication of this part of it to you will not be looked upon in an unacceptable light. The continued aſſiſtance and liberal encouragement which you have favored me with in the progreſs of my larger Hiſtory, and the many other eſſential marks of friendſhip which you have

have honored me with, cannot but flatter me with thoſe hopes. You are beſides, Sir, materially connected with the county, by the important ſtation which you have ſo long held in repreſenting the town and port of Dover, to the univerſal ſatisfaction of your conſtituents, who, confident of your attachment to the beſt of kings, and the happy conſtitution of this country, (an attachment which you have perſevered in with unabated conſtancy) have continued their approbation of your conduct by repeatedly chuſing you, with the ſame fervent zeal, in two ſucceſſive parliaments. Give me leave, Sir, to join in the deſerved acknowledgment of your public merit, and at the ſame time to ſeize this opportunity of returning my thanks to you for the many favors which you have conferred on,

SIR,

Your moſt reſpectful,

and much obliged

humble ſervant,

LONDON,
MAY 12, 1798. EDWARD HASTED.

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☞ *Any* ERRORS *or* MISTAKES, *in the former edition, or communications towards the improvement of these volumes, will, at any time, in future, be thankfully received, if directed to* W. BRISTOW, PARADE, CANTERBURY.

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1. *To face title, ...* *Plate of* SUTTON CASTLE, 8*vo.*
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3. *To face p.* 91... *Ditto,* TWYFORD DITTO.
4. *To face p.* 173. *Ditto,* LOWY OF TUNBRIDGE.
5. *To face p.* 255. *Ditto,* WACHLINGSTONE HUNDRED.

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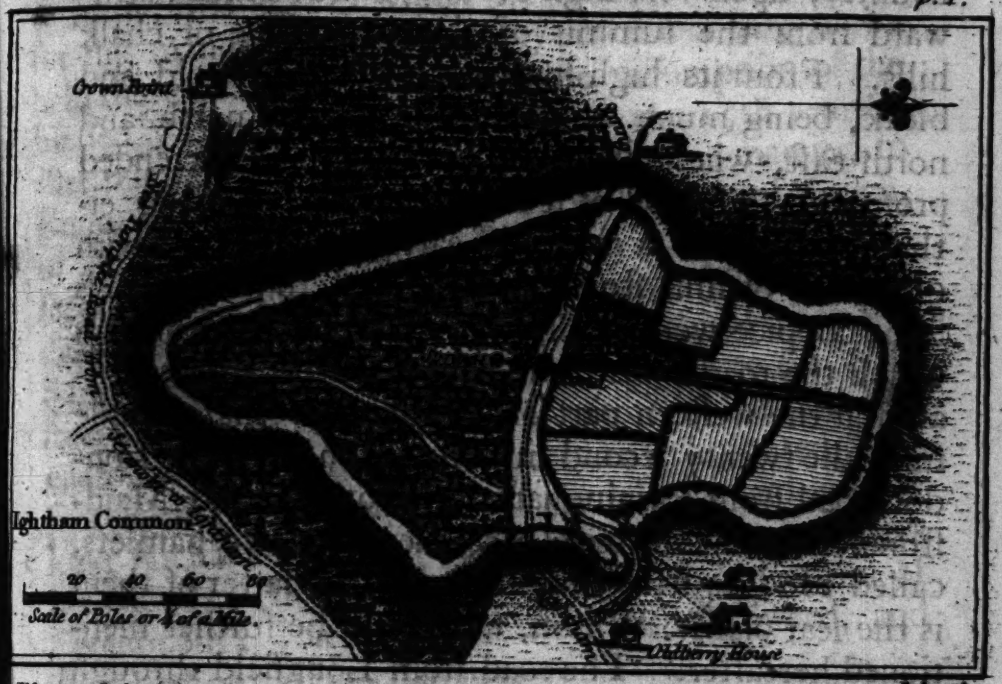

Plan of the ROMAN CAMP *on* Oldberry Hill *in* IGHTHAM.

THE HUNDRED OF WROTHAM.

WESTWARD from the hundred of Larkfield lies that of WROTHAM, uſually pronounced *Ruteham*, called in Domeſday, *Broteham*, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, WROTEHAM.

THIS HUNDRED CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDS THE PARISHES OF

1. STANSTED,
2. WROTHAM,
3. IGHTHAM, and
4. SHIPBORNE.

STANSTED

LIES the next pariſh north-weſtward from Trottesclive, on the ſummit of the chalk hill, on a ſtony

ſoil, as its name implies, *Stane* ſignifying a ſtone, and *ſtede* a place in the Saxon language.

THIS PARISH lies in a moſt unfrequented dreary country, upon very high ground, about a mile northward from the ſummit of the great ridge of chalk hills. From its high ſituation it lies very cold and bleak, being much expoſed towards the north and north-eaſt, where it has a beautiful and extended proſpect. The ſoil of it is very poor, conſiſting either of chalk or a red ſtiff earth, both mixed with quantities of flint ſtones; in the weſtern part there is ſome coppice wood. The church and village through which the road leads from Aſh to Wrotham, is ſituated at the weſtern part of it, not more than a mile from the twenty ſecond mile ſtone on the high London road from Farningham to Wrotham and Maidſtone. In the eaſtern part there are two hamlets, called Hodges-ſtreet and Farſee, in the latter of them is the ſeat of Mr. Wilſon, which will be further mentioned hereafter. The road from Longfield through Hartley bottom leads through it to Trotteſclive.

About Eaſter, in the year 1666, a paſture field in this pariſh, which is a conſiderable diſtance from the ſea, or any branch of it, and a place, where there are no fiſh ponds, but a ſcarcity of water, was ſcattered all over with ſmall fiſh, in quantity about a buſhel, ſuppoſed to have been rained down from a cloud, there having been at that time a great tempeſt of thunder, hail, wind, &c. Theſe fiſh were about the ſize of a man's little finger, ſome were like ſmall whitings, others like ſprats, and ſome ſmaller like ſmelts. Several of theſe fiſh were ſhewn publicly at Maidſtone and Dartford.[a]

THE MANOR OF STANSTED, which is ſubordinate, and eſteemed as *a borough*, belonging to that of Wrotham, in the reign of king Henry the IIId.

[a] See Philoſ. Tranſactions, vol. 20th, No. 243.

was

was in the poſſeſſion of a family of the name of Grapinell, by a female coheir of which it went in marriage to William de Inge, who was one of the judges in the reign of king Edward II.

In the firſt year of which he procured free warren for this manor, and in the 9th year of it a fair, to be held there yearly on the feaſt of the Aſſumption of the bleſſed Virgin Mary. He died in the 15th year of that reign, upon which Joan his daughter married to Eudo, or Ivo, la Zouch,[b] ſon of William, lord Zouch, of Haringworth, became entitled to it, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Henry la Zouch, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 26th year of king Henry VI. Soon after which it appears to have paſſed to Sir William Colepeper, of Aylesford, whoſe eldeſt ſon Richard, of Oxenhoath, was afterwards knighted, and ſucceeded to this manor. He died in the 2d year of king Richard III. anno 1484, leaving three daughters his coheirs; Margaret, married to William Cotton, of Oxenhoath; Joice, to Edmund lord Howard, and Elizabeth, to Henry Barham, of Teſton.[c]

They, in the next reign of king Henry VII. joined in the ſale of this manor to Thomas Leigh, of Sibton, in Lyminge, whoſe ſon John Leigh, eſq. was of Addington, in Surry, and he died poſſeſſed of it in 1544. His grandſon of the ſame name, in the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, deviſed it to Richard Blunt, alias Leigh, his natural ſon, for a long term of years, and died in 1576; the fee of it was afterwards alienated to Robert Byng, eſq. of Wrotham, ſheriff in the 34th year of queen Elizabeth, who died four years afterwards, anno 1595.[d] His great grandſon, John Byng, eſq. of

[b] Philipott, p. 304. See Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 690.

[c] MSS. pedigree of Colepeper. See Preſton, in Aylesford.

[d] There is a caſe concerning this manor reported in Croke Term Mich. 9th, Car. 1mi. Rot. 602. See likewiſe Coke's Reports, p. 235.

Wrotham, in the reign of king Charles II. paſſed it away, as well as the reſt of his poſſeſſions at Wrotham, and elſewhere in this neighbourhood, to William James, eſq. of Ightham, whoſe direct deſcendant, Richard James, eſq. of Ightham, is the preſent proprietor of this manor.

THERE IS A MANOR in this pariſh called SORANKS, which in the reign of king Henry III. was held by Ralph de Sandwich, of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, as one quarter of a knight's fee, but in the next reign of king Edward the Iſt, it was got into the poſſeſſion of a family, who implanted their name on it, one of whom, Edmund Sorank held it in the reign of king Edward II.[e] as did Roger Sorank in the 20th year of king Edward III. This manor did not remain long in this name, for in the beginning of the reign of king Richard II. it was become the property of Thomas Mortimer, of Mortimer's, in Cliff, near Rocheſter, and he in the 20th year of that reign paſſed it away by ſale to William Skrene, from which name it was alienated to Wood, in whoſe deſcendants it remained until the latter end of the reign of king Henry VII. when Thomas Wood paſſed it away to Robert Barefoot.

He died in the 1ſt year of king Edward the VIth, being then poſſeſſed of this manor, and one hundred and forty acres of arable, and wood in Stanſted, held of the king, as of the manor of Otford, by knight's ſervice. Thomas Barefoot was his ſon and heir, and he, with Catherine his wife, in the 2d and 3d year of king Philip and queen Mary, ſold this manor to Henry Fanſhaw, and Dorothy his wife, who in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign alienated it to George Wiſeman, and he paſſed it away to Launce, in whoſe deſcendants it continued till it was conveyed by ſale to Mr. John Cox, who having purchaſed of Sir Roger Twiſden, bart. an eſtate on the ſummit of the hill, on

[e] Book of Aid, anno 20th, Edward IIId.

the

the eaſtern ſide of this pariſh, built A SEAT for his reſidence on it, naming it FAIRSEAT, from the pleaſantneſs of its proſpect, the extenſiveneſs of which has cauſed it commonly to be called *Fairſee*. Of this family there are ſeveral memorials in Stanſted church; they bore for their arms, *Sable, a chevron argent between three attires of a ſtag fixed to the ſcalp of the ſecond*. He died poſſeſſed both of this manor and ſeat in 1736, leaving by Hannah his wife, who ſurvived him, John Cox, eſq. who was of Fairſeat. He left no iſſue, and was ſucceeded by his only ſiſter Sarah, married to George Wilſon, eſq. who is jointly with her the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor and ſeat.

CHARITIES.

MRS. ALICE HANBURY, time unknown, gave by will for the benefit of the poor, the yearly ſum of 40s. iſſuing out of the eſtate of John Burgh, in the pariſh of St. Andrew Underſhaft, London, which has not been paid ſince the year 1772.

A PERSON UNKNOWN, gave to be diſtributed in bread to the poor of this pariſh in general, 15s. yearly, in land, and now of that annual produce.

STANSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and being a *peculiar* of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, is in the *deanry* of Shoreham.

The church, which is dedicated to the bleſſed Virgin Mary, is only a chapel to the church of Wrotham, from which it was ſeparated by ordinance of parliament, paſſed in 1647, and made a diſtinct church of itſelf, but at the reſtoration in 1660, it returned to its former ſtate, in which it continues at preſent. It antiently paid ſix-pence *chriſm* rent to the mother church of the dioceſe.

This chapel is not valued ſeparate from Wrotham in the king's books. The whole emoluments of it are received by the rector and vicar of Wrotham, as an appendage to his church of Wrotham, and he appoints a curate from time to time to officiate here.

WROTHAM.

SOUTHWARD from Stanſted lies Wrotham, commonly pronounced *Ruteham*. In Domeſday book it is written *Broteham*, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, WROTEHAM.

THE PARISH of Wrotham is of very large extent, being, though only between two and three miles in breadth, near five miles in length from north to ſouth. It lies of courſe in various ſituations, and is of various ſoils. The village, or town of Wrotham, is ſituated at the foot of the great ridge of chalk hills, above the ſummit of which this pariſh extends northward. From this hill, called here Wrotham hill, which is here luxuriantly cloathed with fine ſpreading beech trees, there is a moſt beautiful proſpect ſouthward over a variety of country, lying in the vale beneath, of vaſt extent, which is bounded by the ſand hills at the ſouthern extremity of it; the high road from London through Farningham to Maidſtone leads through this town, which is a little more than twenty-four miles from London. At the entrance of it is the manſion of the rectory, a handſome houſe, well ſuited to the income of it, and on the oppoſite ſide the road ſtands the church, and the ſmall remains of the archiepiſcopal palace, but yet ſufficient to remind us of its having formerly been ſuch. In the center of the town ſtand the market-place and public well, both repaired by the lord of the manor; the market, which was on a Tueſday, has been diſuſed for many years, but here is a fair held yearly on May 4, for horſes, cattle, &c. Oppoſite the market-place is Wrotham-place, the ſeat of Mr. Haddock, a further account of which will be given hereafter. Hence the road divides, that to the right leads to Yaldham and Ightham, and to the left the London road

to

to Maidſtone continues ſouth-eaſtward along a chalky ſoil, through *the borough of Neupiker*, where there is a handſome faſhed houſe belonging to Mr. Tomlyn, and a ſpring, which ſupplies the rivulet which runs afterwards by Ford, ſituated at the weſtern boundaries of the pariſh, next to Addington, and thence by Leyborne towards the Medway; about a mile from Neupiker, is Wrotham heath, a barren ſandy ſoil, both red and black, but on which great quantities of peat is dug; here the road divides, the left leading by the Royal Oak to Maidſtone, near which are the two hamlets of Great and Little Comp, and the woods of that name, and the right towards Ightham, the antient Roman camp on Oldberry hill, and over Seal chart to Sevenoke and Weſterham. On the ſouthern ſide of the road this pariſh extends over the hill to Hale borough and the hamlet of Plaxtool, where the ſoil, from a ſand becomes a deep ſtiff clay, and though a fertile, yet an unpleaſant miry country. The chapel and ſtreet of Plaxtool, together with the ſeat of Fairlawn, are ſituated at the ſouthern boundaries of it, next to Shipborne and Weſt Peckham. In Plaxtool-ſtreet is a good houſe, built by Thomas Dalyſon, eſq. who reſided here till his father's death, when he removed to Hamptons, in Weſt Peckham. He lies buried in Plaxtool chapel, and his eldeſt ſon, William Dalyſon, eſq. of Hamptons, now reſides in it. Near the laſt hill above-mentioned, but ſtill within the circuit of this borough, are two hamlets, called Plaxtool-ſtreet likewiſe, and Crouch, the latter of which was formerly the reſidenec of the Millers, baronets, about half a mile eaſtward from which is the large tract of woodland, called the Herſt or Compwoods; through the other runs a ſtream, which riſes near Ightham, and having turned a paper mill at Baſted paſſes through this borough towards Weſt Peckham, Hadlow, and thence into the Medway.

That part of this pariſh which lies ſouthward below Comp-hill, and the hill above Fairlawn, is in the diſtrict called the Weald, though there have been ſeveral, who have contended, that all that part of Wrotham lying below the chalk hill is in the Weald of Kent, and as a proof of it, urge the non-payment of tithe for the wood in thoſe parts of this pariſh. But the general received opinion is, that the Weald begins at the next ſand hill above Fairlawn; wood being exempted from tithe can be no proof of its being in the Weald, as there are ſuch large diſtricts in this county plainly out of it, which claim and enjoy, as yet, a like privilege.

This pariſh ought antiently to have contributed to the repair of the fifth pier of Rocheſter bridge.

Beſides the gentlemens' families mentioned hereafter who formerly reſided in this pariſh, John Richers, a juſtice of the peace, reſided here in 1570, a period when that office was truly an honor to thoſe who were intruſted with it. He was deſcended from an antient family of Swanington-hall, in Norfolk.

William Bryan, eſq. of this pariſh, ſon of John Bryan, of Kibworth, in Leiceſterſhire, by Elianor, ſiſter of Anthony Watſon, biſhop of Chicheſter, and at length heir to the biſhop, reſided here in the beginning of the reign of king James I. and bore for his arms, *Or, three piles azure, a chief ermine.*

A branch of the family of Polley, alias Polhill, once reſided in this pariſh, of which was Sir Thomas Polley, who was living here in the reign of king James I. Theſe were junior to thoſe of Preſton, in Shoreham, but elder to thoſe of Chipſted and Otford, in this county. John Thomas, gent. was of Wrotham, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, whoſe grandſon, William Thomas, gent. removed to Selling, in this county. They bore for their arms, *Argent, a feſs dancette, ſable, between three Corniſh choughs, proper.*[f]

[f] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Ped. Thomas.

Thomas

Thomas Shakerley, third ſon of Francis Shakerley, of Ditton, in this county, reſided at Wrotham in the reign of king James I.[g]

In Blackſole field, in this pariſh, Sir Robert Southwell, ſheriff of this county, and the lord Abergavenny, with about five hundred gentlemen and yeomen, routed the Iſleys and their party, who were engaged in Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion, in the firſt year of queen Mary's reign; the rebels were purſued from hence near four miles to Hartley-wood, many of them were killed, and about ſixty taken priſoners. Thoſe who were ſlain in this rencounter were buried in the field of battle. Sir Henry Iſley himſelf eſcaped and fled into Hampſhire.

Some of our antiquarians, as Talbot, and after him Lambarde,[h] have conjectured Wrotham to have been the ſtation called in *Antonine's* itinerary *Vagniacæ*, but in this they have not been followed by any one elſe that I have ſeen.

There is great probability that the *Roman military way* paſſed by Ofham through this pariſh near the Comps, weſtward, towards Oldborough and Stone-ſtreet, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

About ſeventy years ago a conſiderable quantity of Britiſh ſilver coin was diſcovered in this pariſh by a mole's caſting up the earth, and by digging afterwards, which were all ſeized by the lord of the manor of Wrotham.

Pentaphyllum, or *creeping cinquefoil*, mentioned by Dr. Plot in his hiſtory of Oxfordſhire, as a rare plant, is ſaid to grow plentifully on one ſide of Wrotham town.

WROTHAM was given to Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, by king Ethelſtan, in the year 964, and continued part of the poſſeſſions of that church, when Lanfranc came

[g] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree Shakerley.
[h] Leland's Itin. vol. iii. p. 173. Burton's Anton. p. 178.

to

to the ſee in the year 1070, being the 5th year of the Conqueror's reign.

On the diviſion, which the archbiſhop ſoon afterwards made of the revenues of his church, between himſelf and his convent, Wrotham was allotted to the archbiſhop and his ſucceſſors, and as ſuch it is entered under the general title of his lands in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken about the year 1080, as follows:

In Broteham hundred. The archbiſhop himſelf holds Broteham. It was taxed at eight ſulings. The arable land is twenty carucates. In demeſne there are three carucates, and ſeventy-ſix villeins, with eighteen borderers, having fourteen carucates. There is a church and ten ſervants, and three mills of fifteen ſhillings, and nine acres of meadow; wood, when fruitful (in acorns) ſufficient for the pannage of five hundred hogs.

Of this manor, William Diſpenſator holds one ſuling, and there he has one carucate in demeſne, and two villeins with half a carucate.

Of the ſame manor Goisfrid holds of the archbiſhop one ſuling, and there he has one carucate, and ſix villeins, with one borderer, having two carucates.

Of the manor itſelf, Farman holds one yoke and an half of the archbiſhop, and there he has three carucates, and ſix villeins with twelve cottagers having two carucates, there are ten ſervants.

In the whole value, in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, this manor was worth fifteen pounds, and afterwards ſixteen pounds. Now the demeſne of the archbiſhop is valued at twenty-four pounds, and yet it pays thirty-five pounds. Of the knights eleven pounds.

What Richard of Tonebridge holds in his lowy is valued at fifteen pounds.

Walter, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the 8th year of king Edward II. had a grant of a market weekly on a Thurſday at his manor of Wrotham, and one fair on the feaſt of St. George yearly.

In

In an antient taxation of the archbiſhop's revenues, this manor was valued at eighty five pounds.[i]

The archbiſhops had very antiently *a palace* here, in which they frequently reſided till the time of archbiſhop Simon Iſlip, who came to the ſee in the 23d year of king Edward III. who having a deſire to finiſh the palace at Maidſtone, which John Ufford his predeceſſor had begun, and wanting materials for that purpoſe, pulled down the greateſt part of this houſe, and tranſported the materials thither, in which ſituation, the manor, with the remains of it, continued till the reign of king Henry VIII. when Thomas Cranmer, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the 29th year of it, conveyed it, as well as all his eſtates whatſoever in this pariſh, except the church of Wrotham, and its appendages, to that king, in exchange for other premiſes; at which time the ſcite and demeſnes of it were let by the archbiſhop at the yearly rent of 5l. 6s. 8d. and there were paid to the archbiſhop (who reſerved the royalty and rents of the manor to himſelf) from the farmers and tenants of it, of antient cuſtom, annually, two hundred and ſixty-four hens, valued at ſixty-ſix ſhillings; 1159 eggs at 5s. 9d. and two geeſe at ten-pence,[k] which is noted here to ſhew the ſmall value of theſe articles at that time.

King Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted to Sir John Maſon, the ſcite of this manor, and the park of Wrotham, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice. And in his 6th year, he granted to him, and dame Elizabeth his wife, by letters patent, the manor itſelf *in fee*, at the yearly rent of 46l. 1cs. 6d. of *fee farm*. Sir John Maſon alienated it, with all its appurtenances, in the 3d and 4th year of king Philip and queen Mary, to Robert Byng, who reſided at Wrotham, moſt probably at the palace, and bore for his arms, quarterly, *Sable*

[i] Battely Somn. pt. 2d. Appendix, p. 30.
[k] Deeds of Purchaſe, and Augtn. off. Inrolm.

and

and argent in the firſt quarter, a lion rampant of the ſecond, armed and langued, gules.[1] About which time this park was *diſparked*, at leaſt it was ſo before Lambarde wrote his Perambulation in 1570. It lay about half a mile ſouth-eaſt from Wrotham church, the lodge of it is ſtill remaining. He died poſſeſſed of it in the 38th year of queen Elizabeth. George Byng, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, by his firſt wife, ſucceeded him in this manor, and was of Wrotham. He demiſed it in leaſe, for the term of ninety-nine years, to Sir Robert Darell, of Calehill, in truſt for particular uſes, and died poſſeſſed of the fee of it in 1616. His grandſon, John Byng, eſq. (whoſe eldeſt ſon, George, was created lord viſcount Torrington, and was direct anceſtor of the preſent lord viſcount Torrington) ſucceeded him in his poſſeſſions here, which he, ſoon after the death of king Charles I. alienated to William James, eſq. of Ightham-court, at which time he had likewiſe an aſſignment of the remainder of the term granted to Sir Robert Darell, as above-mentioned. His great grandſon, William James, eſq. died in 1780, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Richard James, eſq. of Ightham, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor, the remains of the palace and the eſtate belonging to them.

There is a court leet and court baron held for this manor, which is paramount over the whole hundred, at which, beſides the conſtables of the upper, and lower half hundred of Wrotham, there are choſen ſix borſholders for the ſix villes or boroughs of Wrotham town, Stanſted, Neupicar, Wingfield, Roughway, and Haleborough.

THE PALACE ſtood adjoining to the eaſt ſide of the church yard, there are hardly any remains left of the houſe itſelf, though there is a large ſubſtantial ſtone building, once part of the offices belonging to the palace, and in which I imagine the Byngs dwelt, whilſt

[1] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree Byng.

in

in poſſeſſion of this manor and eſtate, a gateway here having ſtill their arms remaining carved in ſtone on it. In the field behind the ruins are marks of the garden, a bowling-green and terras round it, ſtill plainly viſible.

LITTLE WROTHAM is a diſtrict in the north-eaſt part of this pariſh, next to Trotteſclive, which in the reign of the Conqueror, was part of the poſſeſſions of Odo, biſhop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, the Conqueror's half brother, under the general title of whoſe lands, it is thus entered in the book of Domeſday.

Ralf Fitz Turald holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Litel Wroteham. It was taxed at one ſuling and an half. The arable land is .... In demeſne there is one carucate and four villeins, with four borderers, having two carucates. There are two ſervants and two mills of four ſulings, and two acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of five hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards it was worth forty ſhillings, now ſixty ſhillings and fifty-four pence.

Richard de Tonebridge holds in his lowy what is worth thirteen ſhillings, and wood for the pannage of fifty hogs, and the king has in the ſame manor what is worth ſixteen pence.

Goduin and Edwin held this land in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, for two manors.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, about the year 1084, this, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions, became confiſcated to the crown.

In the reign of king Henry I. Geoffry Talbot poſſeſſed the manor of Little Wrotham, the greateſt part of which he gave to biſhop Gundulph, and the church of St. Andrew, in Rocheſter, which gift was thenconfirmed by the king.

In the 20th year of king Edward III. the biſhop of Rocheſter paid aid for half a knight's fee, which he held in Little Wrotham.

The

The before-mentioned part of Little Wrotham, containing about one hundred and thirty acres of land, continues at this time part of the poſſeſſions of the biſhop of Rocheſter, and is now in the tenure of Thomas Whitaker, eſq. of Trotteſclive, by leaſe from the biſhop. The other part of it containing about twenty acres of land is at preſent the property of Mr. Tomlyn, gent. of Neupiker, in this pariſh, the tithes of both parts are claimed and taken by the heirs of Sir Richard Bettenſon, bart. who pay from thence forty ſheaves of corn, or as the rectors leaſe expreſſes it, forty ſhocks of wheat, yearly to the rector of Wrotham.

WROTHAM PLACE is an antient manſion, ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the High-ſtreet of Wrotham town, which has been for many years the habitation of gentlemen. It was formerly called Nyſſell's, from a family of that name, proprietors of it, one of whom, Thomas Nyſſell, died poſſeſſed of it in 1498, and lies buried, with Alice his wife, in this church.

When this name became extinct here, or who ſucceeded them I have not found; but in the reign of king James the Iſt. it was purchaſed by John Rayney, eſq. of London, who ſeated himſelf at Wrotham-place. He was lineally deſcended from John Reignie, for ſo the name was written in old deeds, who held the manors of Edgeford, in Devonſhire, and of Smithely-hall, in Yorkſhire, in the reign of king Edward III. which John was a deſcendant of Sir John de Reignie, who appeared by the muniments of this family, to have been poſſeſſed of lands in Cumberland, in the reign of king Henry III. whoſe deſcendant William Rayney, was of Yorkſhire, and was anceſtor of John Rayney, eſq. of London, above-mentioned, who bore for his arms, *Gules, two wings in lure ermine.*[m] His ſon John Rayney ſucceeded him in this eſtate, where he reſided,

[m] Viſtn. co. Kent, anno 1660, and MSS. pedigree of Rayney.

and

and was made a knight at the coronation of Charles I. and in 1641 was created a baronet of Nova Scotia, and in 1615 ſerved the office of ſheriff of this county. His ſon, Sir John Rayney, bart. was born at Wrotham-place in 1660, and dying in 1705, was buried in this church, leaving three daughters his coheirs, ſo that the title became extinct. His heirs ſome few years after his death, conveyed this ſeat to Stephenſon, who ſhortly after, about the year 1723, conveyed it to Captain Nicholas Haddock, ſon of Sir Richard Haddock, comptroller of the navy. Captain Haddock was afterwards promoted to the rank of admiral in the royal navy, and bore for his arms, *Argent, a croſs ſable, in the firſt quarter, a fleur de lis of the ſecond.* He reſided at Wrotham-place occaſionally, till the time of his death, which happened in 1746. He was buried in a vault which he had built a few years before his death, (his father being buried there in a ſeparate one) in the church-yard of Leigh, in Eſſex, in which pariſh he was born.[n] He left three ſons, Nicholas, who became his heir; Richard, comptroller of the navy, whoſe widow Mary, one of the four daughters of Charles Compton, fourth ſon of George, earl of Northampton, re-married Arthur Scott, eſq. and Charles, late of Canterbury, eſq. and a daughter who died unmarried.

Nicholas Haddock, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded his father in this ſeat, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1781, and was ſucceeded by his brother and heir-at-law, Charles Haddock, eſq. who now reſides here; he married Miſs Medhurſt, of Wrotham, by whom he has no iſſue.

YALDHAM is a diſtrict in this pariſh, ſituated ſomewhat leſs than a mile and an half weſtward from Wrotham church. The principal manor in it is called EAST, alias GREAT YALDHAM MANOR, and was formerly ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from the adjoining

[n] See Hiſtory of Eſſex, 8vo. vol. v. p. 187.

manor

manor of Weſt, alias Little Yaldham, and likewiſe from the manor of Yaldham, alias St. Cleres, in the pariſh of Ightham. The original name of theſe manors was *Ealdham*, a name which denotes the antiquity of them, *Eald* in Saxon ſignifying old, and *ham* a dwelling.

Theſe *three manors* were formerly owned by a family of the ſame name, one of whom, Sir Thomas de Aldham, was with Richard I. at the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine. His deſcendant, Sir Thomas de Aldham, poſſeſſed them in the reign of king Edward II. and dying without male iſſue, his three daughters became his coheirs, the eldeſt of whom married Newborough, of Dorſetſhire; Margery married Martin Peckham; and Iſolda was the wife of John St. Clere, and on the diviſion of their inheritance, Martin Peckham became entitled to that part of the eſtate, which lay in Wrotham, as John St. Clere did to that in Ightham, in right of their reſpective wives.

The firſt of this name of Peckham, that I have met with of any note, was John de Peckham, who attended king Richard the Iſt to the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine, in the year 1191, from whom deſcended John Peckham, who held the manor of Peckham, in Hadlow, in the reign of king Edward I. his ſon was Martin Peckham, who married Margery, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas de Aldham, and poſſeſſed the manors of Eaſt and Weſt Yaldham, in this pariſh, in her right, the former of which he made his reſidence, where his poſterity continued for many generations; and Weever ſays, (from Francis Thinne, Lancaſter herald) that the two tombs near the door of this pariſh church, were thoſe of this Martin Peckham, and Margery his wife. This family bore for their arms, *Ermine a chief, quarterly or and gules*, which coat remains in one of the windows of Barham church, and underneath, *Jacobus Peccam*. His grandſon Reginald or Reynold Peckham, eſq. was of Yaldham, where he reſided in the latter

latter end of king Edward the IIId.'s reign, and then purchaſed the manor of Wingfield, in this pariſh. His ſon, James Peckham, eſq. of Yaldham, was ſheriff in the 1ſt and 12th years of king Richard II. He married Lora, the ſole daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Morant, of Morant's-court, in Chevening, and widow of Sir Thomas Cawne, with whom he had, among other eſtates, the manor of Barſted, near Borough-green, in this pariſh.

His deſcendant James Peckham, eſq. of Yaldham, was ſheriff in the 12th year of king Edward IV. as was his ſon Reginald, or Reynold Peckham, eſq. (as he is written on his grave-ſtone) in the 24th year of king Henry VII. and kept his ſhrievalty at Harrietſham, and on his father's death ſucceeded to theſe manors, and the manſion-houſe of Yaldham. He was eſquire of the body to king Henry VIII. and dying in the 16th year of that king's reign, anno 1525, lies buried in this church, among others of his family, of which there are ſeveral graveſtones remaining.

His grandſon Reginald, or Reynold Peckham, of Yaldham, procured his lands to be diſgavelled by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. and died in the 1ſt and 2d year of king Philip and queen Mary, and as appears by the eſcheat rolls of that year, poſſeſſed of the manor of Aldham, alias Eſt Yaldham, with its appurtenances, held of the manor of Lullingſtone-caſtle by knight's ſervice, and the manor of Parva, alias Weſt Aldham, and the manor of Downton's-court, of the duke of Northumberland, as of his manor of Otford, by knight's ſervice, and he held at that time the lands called Goldſmith's, in this pariſh, and Stanſted, near Compen wood, of the manor of St. John's, in Sutton. His deſcendant Reginald Peckham, eſq. of Yaldham, left two daughters his coheirs, Dorothy, married to Thomas Chiffinch, eſq. of Northfleet, by whom ſhe had no iſſue, and Anne married to Bartlet, eſq. of Weſtminſter.

Reginald Peckham, esq. last mentioned, alienated the manors of East and West Yaldham, the mansion-house of it, Terry's lodge, with other premises in Wrotham, about the year 1713, to George St. Loe, esq. captain of the royal navy, and commissioner of Chatham-yard, who bore for his arms, *Argent, on a bend sable, three annulets or, a martlet in chief* as a difference. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Chiffinch, esq. of Northfleet, who survived him, and their son and heir about the year 1733, alienated this estate to Mr. Francis Austen, of Sevenoke, who immediately afterwards passed it away by sale to William Evelyn Glanville, esq. of St. Cleres, in Ightham, whose son and heir, William Glanville Evelyn, esq. of St. Cleres, is the present owner of it.

The Peckhams were the last gentlemen who resided at Yaldham, since which it has been used as a farm-house.

The courts for the manors of Yaldham have not been held for many years.

Gosfrid de Ros gave *his tithe* of Ealdeham for ever to the monks of St. Andrew, in Rochester, for the good of his wife's soul, which land belonged to Wrotham, for which the monks were to celebrate his wife's anniversary yearly.

This portion of tithes, which arose from one hundred and forty acres of land in this parish,[o] continued part of the possessions of the priory of Rochester till its dissolution in the 31st year of king Henry VIII. two years after which the king settled it, by his dotation charter, among other premises, on his new founded dean and chapter of Rochester, with whom it now remains.

On the dissolution of deans and chapters after the death of king Charles I. this portion of tithes issuing

[o] See the names of the fields in Reg. Roff. p. 117. and the confirmations of these tithes in Ibid. p. 46, 48, 410, 506.

out

out of Yaldham manor, was ſurveyed in 1649, in order to be ſold for the benefit of the ſtate, when it appeared that it conſiſted of the whole tithe of Stonefield, Broadfield, Perryfield, Dunnfield, and Perthfield, all bounding within the precincts of this manor, and containing by eſtimation one hundred and forty-two acres, and was let by the dean and chapter of Rocheſter, anno 10th Charles I. for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of 6s. 8d. and two good capons; but that they were worth in improvements, over and above the rent, 7l. 13s. 4d. yearly.[p]

In 1770, the tenants of this portion of tithes were Naſh Maſon, eſq. and Mrs. Margaret Wiffin, ſince married to Mr. Tomlyn, of Neupiker; the latter continues in poſſeſſion of her part, but that of the former has been ſold to William Glanville Evelyn, eſq. the preſent tenant of it.

About a mile and a half eaſtward from Wrotham church, near Addington common, lies Ford, ſo called from the ford here over the brook, which riſes at Neupiker in this pariſh, and runs cloſe by this houſe to Leybourn, and thence to the Medway. Ford was very antiently in the poſſeſſion of the family of Clerke, very frequently written in old evidences le Clerke, who reſided at this place, and bore for their arms, *Argent on a bend engrailed azure, a cinquefoil pierced or.* John Clerke, eſq. was of Ford, in the reigns of king Henry V. and VI. His ſon and heir John Clerke, was made ſecond baron of the court of exchequer in the 39th year of king Henry VI. which dignity he ſeems to have held till the 20th year of Edward IV. anno 1479, in whoſe deſcendants, reſidents at Ford, it continued down to William Clerke, eſq. of Ford, who was a brave and valiant gentleman, and in 1641 received the honor of knighthood, after which he manifeſted his loyalty to the king by raiſing and arming

[p] Parliamentary Surveys, Lambeth library, vol xiv.

a regiment at his own charge, at the head of which he was ſlain, together with Sir William Boteler, in the fight between the king's forces, and thoſe of the parliament, under Sir William Waller, at Cropredy-bridge, on June 29, 1644.[q]

His widow held this eſtate afterwards, as part of her jointure, of which ſhe continued poſſeſſed at the reſtoration in 1660, and her heirs alienated it to Mr. John Know, who reſided at Ford, and dying poſſeſſed of it in 1723, was buried in this church, bearing for his arms, *Argent on a bend ingrailed gules, three trefoils, ſlipt of the firſt.* He left an only daughter and heir Mary, who had married Philip, eldeſt ſon of Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. of Oxenhoath, and dying in 1722, left two ſons, Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. of Oxenhoath, and John Know Bartholomew, who, by his grandfather's will, became his heir, and ſucceeded to this eſtate of Ford. He died without iſſue, and was ſucceeded in it by his brother Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. of Oxenhoath, who likewiſe died without iſſue in 1757, and by his will bequeathed Ford, among the reſt of his eſtates, to the ſecond ſon, then unborn, of Sir Francis Geary, bart. admiral of the royal navy, who had married Mary, his half ſiſter, which ſon was born ſoon after the above deviſe of this eſtate, being the preſent Sir William Geary, bart. M. P. for this county, who at preſent owns Ford, now only uſed as a farm-houſe, and the eſtate belonging to it.[r]

THE HAMLET OF BOROUGH-GREEN is ſituated about a mile ſouthward from Wrotham church, on the high road leading from Maidſtone to Sevenoke and Weſterham, which here croſſes the pariſh from the weſtward. Near this road is the manor of WINGFIELD, lying within the borough of that name, antiently belonged to the family of Quintin, in which it remained till Gil-

[q] Clarendon's Hiſtory of Rebellion, vol. ii. p. 386.
[r] See Oxenhoath, in Weſt Peckham.

bert

bert Quintin, and Joane his wife, in the 31ſt year of king Edward III. paſſed it away by fine to Reginald Peckham, gent. of Yaldham, in whoſe deſcendants it continued to James Peckham, eſq. of Yaldham, who in the beginning of king James the Iſt.'s reign, alienated it to Nicholas Miller, eſq. of Crouch, then called Horſnells Crouch, in this pariſh, who kept his ſhrievalty there in the 8th year of king Charles I. He died in 1640, and lies buried in this church, having at his death given both Wingfield and Crouch, to Nicholas Miller, his grandſon, ſecond ſon of his eldeſt ſurviving ſon, Sir Nicholas Miller, of Oxenhoath, who was of Crouch, gent. and died poſſeſſed of both Wingfield and Crouch in 1693, and was buried in this church, having had twelve children, five ſons and ſeven daughters. Theſe eſtates continued ſome years afterwards in this family, and till they were at length carried in marriage, by a female heir, to Mr. Munday, of Derbyſhire, and he ſold them in 1756 to Sarah, lady viſcounteſs Falkland, who was daughter and heir of Thomas Inwen, eſq. of Southwark, and firſt married Henry, earl of Suffolk, who died in 1745, by whom ſhe had no iſſue; after which ſhe married in 1752, Lucius Carey viſcount Falkland, by whom ſhe had one ſon and ſeveral daughters. She died poſſeſſed of both Wingfield and Crouch in 1776, and by her will deviſed theſe eſtates for life to her huſband Lucius Carey, viſcount Falkland, and the remainder in fee to Francis Motley Auſten, eſq. of Wilmington, who has ſince purchaſed lord Falkland's intereſt in them, and is now the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

There is no court held for the manor of Wingfield, and the manſion of Horſnels Crouch, ſituated in the hamlet of Crouch, is now converted into a farm-houſe.

About half a mile ſouthward from Wrotham heath, in the road from thence to Mereworth walks, is a diſtrict in which there are two small hamlets ſituated

on the ſummit of the hill, called GREAT and LITTLE COMP, and more vulgarly *Camps*, no doubt from their having been once made uſe of as camps, and probably by the Romans, their military way running towards their camp at Oldberry, and to Stone-ſtreet, at a ſmall diſtance only from theſe places.

Their name denotes their origin, Comp in Saxon ſignifying a camp or fortification.

The country hereabouts is wild and rough ground, covered with buſhes and ſmall ſcrubby trees, and near adjoining ſouthward to them is the great tract of woodland called Comp and the Herſt woods. There was formerly *a chapel* belonging to this diſtrict, the remains of which are ſtill viſible, being a chapel of eaſe to Leyborne, and built on a part of the glebe belonging to that rectory, on which account this land, though ſeparated by two pariſhes intervening, is now eſteemed as being within the bounds of Leyborne pariſh. In queen Elizabeth and king James the Iſt.'s reign, *Great Comp* was the reſidence of Sir John Howell, deſcended out of Suſſex, who bore for his arms, *Argent, a lion with two bodies joined at the neck ſable.*[e] This eſtate has been many years poſſeſſed by the family of Lambard, and is now the property of Multon Lambard, eſq. of Sevenoke; here is another farm belonging to Mr. Tomlin. Lord Deſpencer owns a large tract of the woodland, as does Sir John Honywood, Mrs. Hughes, and ſeveral others, different parts of it.

In grubbing up a tree near this place, about ſixty years ago, great numbers of ſmall ſolid pieces of braſs were found under the roots of it.

THE DISTRICT OF PLAXTOOL, ſituated in Haleborough, though now an appendage only to the pariſh of Wrotham, was made a diſtinct pariſh from it by ordinance of parliament, in 1647;[f] in which ſtate it remained

[e] Viſtn. co. Kent, anno 1619. Pedigree Howell.
[f] Ruſhworth's Hiſt. Coll. vol. viii. p. 979.

mained till the reſtoration in 1660, when it was again united to Wrotham, and continues ſo at this time.

In this diſtrict there is a manor called SORE, which antiently belonged to the family of Colepeper, of Preſton, in Aylesford.

Walter Colepeper died poſſeſſed of it in the firſt year of king Edward III. and his deſcendants continued owners of it till Sir Thomas Colepeper, of Preſton, alienated it about the end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, to Nicholas Miller, gent. of this pariſh, on whoſe death in 1621, it came to his ſon, Nicholas Miller, eſq. of Crouch, ſheriff in the 8th year of king Charles I. he died in 1640, leaving three ſons and four daughters, of whom Nicholas, his eldeſt ſurviving ſon, ſucceeded to this eſtate. He was afterwards knighted, and was of Oxenhoath, in Weſt Peckham. His grandſon, Sir Borlaſe Miller, bart. died without iſſue in 1714, and was ſucceeded in this manor by his ſiſter Elizabeth, then the wife of Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. who in his wife's right became intitled to it. He afterwards reſided at Oxenhoath, and left by her three ſons, Philip, Leonard and Humphry.

Leonard, the ſecond ſon, afterwards poſſeſſed this manor, and married Elizabeth, only daughter and heir of Edmund Watton, eſq. of Addington, (remarried to Sir Roger Twiſden, bart.) his ſon Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. now of Addington-place, at lenght ſucceeded to this manor, of which, together with that of Badleſmere adjoining, he is the preſent poſſeſſor.—There is an antient and very remarkable chapel ſtill remaining in the manor-houſe of Sore, which was probably made uſe of by the inhabitants of this diſtrict in general, before the preſent chapel of Plaxtool was erected.

At a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from Plaxtool-ſtreet, lies the ſeat of FAIRLAWN, the houſe of which is at the extremity of this pariſh, part of the ſtables belonging to it being in that of Shipborne. It was formerly

accounted a manor, though now it has loſt all remembrance of having been ſuch.

It was antiently the eſtate of the family of Bavent, of whom it was afterwards held by the family of Colepeper. Walter Colepeper died poſſeſſed of it in the 1ſt year of king Edward III. holding it in *frank fee* of Roger de Bavent, in which name it continued till the latter end of king Henry IV. when it was alienated to Chowne, whoſe deſcendant, John Chowne, reſided at Fairlawne, in the reign of king Henry VIII. and bore for his arms, *Sable, three attires of a ſtag in pale, argent.* His deſcendants continued to reſide here till Sir George Chowne, in order to confine his poſſeſſions within Suſſex, alienated this ſeat, with the lands belonging to it, to Sir Henry Vane the elder, comptroller of the houſhold to king Charles I. after which it continued the reſidence and eſtate of his deſcendants down to William, viſcount Vane, who dying *ſ. p.* in 1789,[n] by will gave this ſeat, among his other eſtates in this county, to David Papillon, eſq. of Acriſe, the preſent owner of it.

One wing of the manſion of Fairlawn was burnt down in 1739, and a new wing built in the room of it, which, before it was quite finiſhed, was again deſtroyed by fire in 1742, and was again rebuilt by lord Vane.

The chapel of Plaxtool ſtands at the weſt end of the village. It was without any fixed eſtabliſhment for the maintenance of a miniſter, or for the repairs of the building itſelf; and the vicar of Wrotham not being obliged to find a curate, divine ſervice was very ſeldom, or at leaſt, very irregularly performed in it. To remedy which, Mr. Thomas Stanley, gent. of Hamptons, in 1638, conveyed to Sir Henry Vane, and four other feoffees, a houſe and two acres of land, valued at upwards of ſeven pounds per annum, for the uſe and ſupport of the curate, upon condition that the

[n] See more of the family of Vane under Shipborne.

inhabitants

inhabitants of it ſhould raiſe the ſum of eight pounds annually for the like purpoſe; in default of which, or the ſervice of the chapel ceaſing, the bequeſt was to revert to the heirs of the donor.

In the year 1647, an ordinance of parliament paſſed, to divide this diſtrict from the pariſh of Wrotham, and by it a collection was directed to be made throughout this county towards erecting a parochial church here, and eſtabliſhing a congregation proportionable to it. In conſequence of which the preſent chapel was erected in 1648, which by an inſcription at the eaſt end of it, is ſaid to have been built at the charge of the inhabitants of Hale and Roughway boroughs; but this ordinance being rendered of no effect at the reſtoration, Plaxtool became again united to Wrotham, and remains ſo at this time. After which the inhabitants refuſing to comply with Mr. Stanley's terms of contributing towards the ſupport of a miniſter, the vicar of Wrotham allowed a ſalary of twenty pounds towards it; but Mr. Daliſon (whoſe anceſtor had married Mr. Stanley's ſole daughter and heir) inſiſting that as the addition was not made by the inhabitants, the proviſo in his bequeſt was not complied with, and that it reverted to him as heir to the donor; a trial at law was had, when it being determined that the intent of the donor was fully anſwered, in the ſum being given by any perſon whatſoever, a decree was made for the future payment of it.

This curacy has ſince been augmented with two hundred pounds from queen Anne's bounty. The curate of it enjoys Mr. Stanley's gift to it, beſides a very handſome and adequate ſalary from the vicar of Wrotham, who appoints the curate from time to time. The preſent curate is Mr. Thomas Daliſon.

There was a houſe and land, worth about twelve pounds per annum, given by one of the Miller family, which continued to be enjoyed by the curate of Plaxtool, who reſided at it till about the year 1750; when,

upon

upon ſome diſpute with the vicar of Wrotham on the nominating a perſon to this curacy, it was withdrawn by Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. of Oxenhoath, and has been with-held ever ſince.

CHARITIES.

EDWARD DODGES gave by will, to be diſtributed among the poor not receiving alms, payable out of land in this pariſh, veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers, the annual ſum of 5l. and now of that annual produce.

DR. CHARLES LAYFIELD gave by will in 1710, the ſum of 416l. 15s. 8d. in O. S. S. annuities, veſted in the accountant-general of the court of chancery, the yearly intereſt of which, till a purchaſe could be made, and afterwards the rents and profits of the land purchaſed to be received by the churchwardens and overſeers, to be applied by them in placing out apprentices one or more child or children of induſtrious poor of this pariſh, who do not receive alms, to be nominated by a general veſtry, and the yearly ſurplus, or if any year no child ſhould be placed out, the whole produce to be given to ſuch induſtrious poor, in ſuch proportions as ſhould be there thought fit towards their ſupport.

MR. SILAS CHITTENDEN gave by will in 1778, to the poor of the *borough of Plaxtool* the ſum of 40s. yearly, to be given in bread, and 2s. yearly in books, to be paid from 70l. in the three per cent. conſolidated annuities, and now of that annual produce.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave a ſack of wheat, to be diſtributed to the poor of that borough every Good Friday, to be paid out of Stoneſtyle-field, now veſted in John Porter.

WROTHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and being a *peculiar* of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, is as ſuch within the *deanry* of Shoreham.

The eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction of this pariſh extends over the diſtrict of the chapelry of Woodland, once a pariſh of itſelf, the civil juriſdiction of which is united to the pariſh of Kingſdown, though on the decay of the chapel, it was, in the 15th year of queen Elizabeth united, as to the eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction, to this pariſh, the rector and vicar of which have a right to poſſeſs all emoluments ariſing from it till another chapel is built.

The

The eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction of this pariſh extends likewiſe over the adjoining pariſh of Stanſted, which is accounted as a chapel to the church of Wrotham. It was made a diſtinct church of itſelf, by the ordinance of parliament before-mentioned, in 1647, in which ſtate it remained till the reſtoration, when it became again united to the church of Wrotham, and continues ſo at this time.

The church, which is dedicated to St. George, is ſituated on the north ſide of the town, adjoining to the London road at the foot of the hill. It is a very handſome large building, conſiſting of three iſles, a croſs iſle, and a large chancel, which laſt was new-paved and otherwiſe much beautified ſome years ago, by the late rector, Dr. John Potter.

There ſeems to have been a rectory and vicarage belonging to this church very antiently, for in the 15th year of king Edward I. the former was valued at eighty marcs, and the latter at twenty marcs. However, the vicarage was not endowed till the middle of the reign of king Edward III. when Simon Iſlip, archbiſhop of Canterbury, at the requeſt, and with the conſent of William de Iſleppe, then rector of this church, with the chapel of Stanſted annexed, decreed, that there ſhould be from that time in future one vicar, the collation of whom ſhould belong to the archbiſhop and his ſucceſſors, and he ſeparated the portion, which the vicar ſhould take in future from that of the rector, and he decreed, that the vicar's part ſo divided, with the permiſſion of the rector, ſhould be as follows: *Imprimis*, that he ſhould have for the habitation of himſelf and his ſucceſſors, a certain houſe lately aſſigned to the vicar, with the garden adjoining, as wholly and as freely as the vicar formerly held the ſame, and all manner of oblations in whatſoever things they ſhould in any manner ariſe, in this church and chapel and elſewhere within the pariſh; and alſo the tithes of lambs, wool, chickens, pigs, geeſe, ducks, eggs, bees, honey,

honey, wax, cheeſe, milk, the produce of the dairy, flax, hemp, apples, pears, ſwans, and alſo of pidgeons, merchandiſings, fiſheries, paſture without the parks of the archbiſhop, onions, garlic, and other ſmall tithes and obventions whatſoever, in any ſhape ariſing within the bounds and limits of the pariſh of this church; and alſo of the *ſilva cedua* of faggots and fardels. And that the vicar ſhould have the tithes of the four water mills ſituated within the pariſh of Wrotham, and alſo the tithe of hay growing at Hale, Roghey, and Wynfield, within this pariſh, and the ſmall tithes of a place called Pelleſholte, titheable to the church of Wrotham from antient time, and all trentals left within the pariſh of this church and chapel; and he taxed and eſtimated the above portion at the ſum of twenty marcs, and decreed it ſhould pay accordingly to the tenth, whenever the ſame ſhould be levied

And he decreed that the vicar ſhould undergo the following burthens, viz. that he ſhould find one fit chaplain to celebrate in the chapel of Stanſted, and to adminiſter to the pariſhioners there all ſacraments, and ſacramentals whatſoever, and to exerciſe all cure of ſouls, and when he had leiſure, and the other part of the pariſh of Wrotham ſhould be in want of his miniſtry, beyond the uſual ſervice, that he ſhould give his aſſiſtance, as the ſame ſhould be enjoined to him and the vicar. Moreover, that the vicar ſhould provide for his chaplain's celebrating at both places, bread and wine and lights, and ſhould pay the procurations due to the dean of Shoreham at his viſitations, and ſhould bind and repair the books, and cauſe the veſtments to be waſhed as often as need ſhould require. But that the ſacriſt aſſigned by the pariſhioners, according to antient cuſtom, ſhould carefully keep them, as he ſhould anſwer it at his peril. And he decreed, that the vicar of this church for the time being, ſhould not take any thing whatſoever beyond the above portion, or undergo any other burthens than thoſe before expreſſed.

And

And he decreed, that the vicar and his chaplains, and their ſucceſſors, ſhould take an oath of obedience to the rector, that he would neither by himſelf, or by any other, publicly or privately, bring any damage or burthen to the rector or church, and that he ſhould not knowingly ever uſurp to himſelf, any thing of the rector's portion. And he further decreed, that as often as the vicarage ſhould become vacant, the rector ſhould take all and ſingular the tithes, and obventions whatſoever aſſigned as before mentioned, to the vicar of it, and ariſing during the time of ſuch vacation, and that during the ſame, he ſhould undergo and acknowledge all the before-mentioned burthens, and ſhould cauſe, as well the ſaid church, as the chapel of Stanſted, to be ſerved in divine ſervices, ſaving to him the archbiſhop and his ſucceſſors full liberty of correcting, amending and explaining his decree, and of adding to, or diminiſhing from the ſame, as often as need ſhould require.*

Thomas Arundel, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in 1402, confirmed the above endowment, and being frequently requeſted by John Sondereſhe, rector of this church, to inſpect the ſaid letters, how far he might with juſtice expound the decree, or endowment of this vicarage, which in ſeveral parts of it ſeemed doubtful and obſcure, on account of the differences and diſputes ariſing from thence, and the preventing thoſe which might probably ariſe in future; the archbiſhop therefore having examined carefully into the premiſes, decreed, that that part of the endowment, where mention is made, that all ſmall tithes, and obventions whatſoever, ſhould belong to the vicar, ought to extend to the tithes, oblations and obventions therein expreſſed, and likewiſe to the tithes of trades and of calves, for the taking of which there had been no ſmall contention, and that all occaſion of diſpute might be prevented between the rector and vicar, by reaſon of the

* Regiſt. Iſlip, ſans date circa an. 1364, f. 205.

endowment,

endowment, he decreed, that the vicar ſhould yearly receive from the rector for the time being 13s. 4d. in money, and four cart loads of wood of the tithes of *ſilvæ cedua* of this pariſh, yearly to be taken, when it ſhould moſt ſuit the vicar, nevertheleſs by the direction and delivery of the rector, or of his *locum tenens*.

And in recompence of which 13s. 4d. of the tithes of calves and of trades, and of the fire wood, the rector of this church for the time being ſhould take entirely all manner of tithes of hay, and *ſilvæ cedua* of whatever ſort or quality, the ſame might be, the decree of his predeceſſor in any wiſe notwithſtanding, which he nevertheleſs decreed to remain in all other parts firm and valid, ſaving to himſelf and his ſucceſſors, full power to correct, amend or explain the ſame, and either to add to or diminiſh it, as often as need, or reaſon required it.[z]

From this time the rectory became a *fine cure*, and the vicar performed the whole ſervice of the cure, though they both continued to receive inſtitution and induction.

The rectory of Wrotham is valued in the king's books at 50l. 8s. 1½d. and the yearly tenths at 5l. 0s. 9½d.

The vicarage is valued at 22l. 5s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 19s. 10½d.

An indenture was executed anno 6th Elizabeth, with the queen's conſent, between the parſon of Wrotham and George Bing, in which the latter conveyed in exchange a court lodge, and twenty-four acres of land to the former, and his ſucceſſors in free alms, in lieu of the parſonage houſe, and twenty-four acres of glebe land.

The rectory of Wrotham continued a *fine cure* impropriate, under a leaſe from the archbiſhop, ſeparate from the vicarage till the year 1715, when the leaſe expiring, archbiſhop Teniſon having before refuſed to

[z] In Libro Arundelli, pt. 1ma. folio 357.

renew

renew it, conferred this preferment on the vicar Mr. Thomas Curteis, ſince which both theſe preferments have been conferred on the ſame perſon who has a ſeparate inſtitution and induction, and conforms likewiſe in every particular to the act of uniformity for each.

The parſonage houſe is a handſome building on the oppoſite ſide of the road weſtward from the church. It was conſiderably improved of late years, firſt, by Mr. Curteis, and next by Dr. Potter, who was the principal benefactor to it, and expended a large ſum of money upon this houſe and the offices belonging to it, during the time of his holding theſe preferments. The vicarage houſe is ſtill remaining. It is a mean building ſituated in that part of Wrotham leading to Yaldham.

The extent of the eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction of this pariſh, with the chapel of Stanſted, is very great, containing a ſpace of ſix miles and an half long, of which Stanſted is two miles, and three miles in width, beſides the chapel of Woodland. There is an exceeding fine glebe to it, and the firſt value of the rectory and vicarage is, as I am informed, upwards of one thouſand pounds per annum, of which the latter is computed at three hundred pounds.

CHURCH OF WROTHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Archbiſhop of Canterbury	*William de Iſleppe*, in 1350.[y]
	Robert de Faryndon, in 1393.[z]
	Roger Stratton, S. T. P.[a]
	John Sondereſſie, in 1402, obt. May 12, 1426.[b]
	William de Pyckenham, LL. D.[c]
	Thomas Ward, in 1433.[d]

y See the endowment above.

z Reg. Roff. p. 468.

a He lies buried in this church.

b See the endowment above. He lies buried in this church. In 1418 the rector of Wrotham was impriſoned in Newgate, Strype's Stow's Survey, book i. p. 19.

c Blomfield's Hiſtory of Norfolk, vol. ii. p. 471.

d Harris's Hiſt. of Kent, p. 441.

PATRONS

PATRONS, &c.

Archbishop of Canterbury .....

RECTORS.

William Warham, Sept. 11, 1517, resig. about 1533.[e]

Andrew Peerson, about 1560, obt. 1570.

Robert Grafton, in 1572.

Charles Sonibanke, S. T. P. ob. Oct. 12, 1638.[f]

RECTORS AND VICARS.

Thomas Curteis, A. M. 1715, obt. 1747.[h]

John Potter, S. T. P. 1747, obt. Sept. 1770.[i]

Hon. James Cornwallis, LL. D. 1771, vacated in 1781.[k]

George Stinton, S. T. P. October 1781, obt. 1783.[l]

Charles Tarrant, S. T. P. August 1783, obt. Feb. 23, 1791.[m]

Richard Levett, 1783, the present rector and vicar.[n]

[e] He was kinsman to archbishop Warham, and was provost of Wingham college, prebendary of St. Paul's, and rector of Hayes, in Middlesex, and archdeacon of Canterbury. Battely's Som. Cant. pt. 2d. p. 158.

[f] Also rector of Brasted and Chidingstone, and prebendary of Canterbury. Archbishop Parker's life, p. 510.

[g] Canon of Windsor and rector of Hazely, in Oxon. Wood's Ath. Fasti, p. 177

[h] On the death of Philip Sandford, the vicar, who died in October, 1715, and lies buried in this church, he was collated to the vicarage of it, of which he was before the rector.

[i] He was the eldest son of archbishop Potter, and had been vicar of Blackburn, in Lancashire; he was afterwards archdeacon of Oxford, vicar of Lydd, and prebendary of Canterbury, which last he resigned on being made dean of that church.

[k] He is next brother to Charles, marquis Cornwallis. He had been rector of Ickham, and preb. of Westminster, and afterwards rector of Boughton Malherbe, all which he resigned, and was afterwards dean of Canterbury, which he resigned, and vacated Wrotham rectory and vicarage on being in 1781, made bishop of Litchfield.

[l] At the same time a dispensation passed for his holding Alhallows, Barking vicarage, in London; at his death he was likewise chancellor of Lincoln, and prebendary of Peterborough.

[m] He held likewise by dispensation, then passed the rectory of St. George's, Bloomsbury. He was afterwards dean of Peterborough.

[n] He was rector of Berkswell, in Warwickshire.

IGHTHAM.

WESTWARD from Wrotham lies IGHTHAM, ſo corruptly called for *Eightham*, which name it had from the eight boroughs or hams lying within the bounds of it, viz. *Eightham*, *Redwell*, *Ivyhatch*, *Borough-green*, *St. Cleres*, *the Moat*, *Beaulies*, and *Oldborough*.[a] In the *Textus Roffenſis* it is ſpelt EHTEHAM.

THE PARISH of Ightham for the moſt part is in the vale between the chalk and the ſand or quarry hills, tho' it reaches above the former northward. Near the chalk hill, and for ſome diſtance ſouthward the ſame ſoil prevails, thence it is an unfertile deep ſand, and at the boundaries towards Shipborne a deep clay and heavy tillage land; from hence, and its ſituation, however healthy it may be, it is by no means a pleaſant or a profitable one. The pariſh is very narrow, little more than a mile in width, but from north to ſouth it extends near five miles, from Kingſdown, above the hills, to Shipborne, its ſouthern boundary. At the foot of the chalk hill and north-weſt boundary of this pariſh, is the manſion of St. Clere, and not far from it Yaldham; about a mile from which is Ightham-court, and at a little diſtance further ſouthward is the church and village, ſituated on the high road from Maidſtone to Sevenoke and Weſterham, which here croſſes this pariſh by the hamlet of Borough-green, and the manor of Oldborough, or Oldbery, as it is now called, with the hill of that name, belonging to Richard James, eſq. of this pariſh, in this part, and by Ivy-hatch plain, there is much rough unincloſed waſte ground, the ſoil a dreary barren ſand, conſiſting in this and the adjoining pariſh, of ſeveral hundred acres, being in general covered with heath and furze, with ſome ſcrubby wood interſperſed

[a] Lamb. Pet. p. 263 Philipott, p. 140.

among them. At the ſouthern extremity of the pariſh, next to Shipborne, and adjoining to the grounds of Fairlawn, is the ſeat of the Moat, lowly ſituated in a deep and miry ſoil. A fair is kept yearly in this pariſh, upon the Wedneſday in Whitſun week, which is vulgarly called Coxcombe fair.

The Roman *military way* ſeems to have croſſed this pariſh from Oſham, and Camps directing its courſe weſtward through it. The names of Oldborough, now called Oldberry-hill, and Stone-ſtreet in it, are certain marks of its note in former times.

At Oldberry-hill there are the remains of *a very conſiderable intrenchment*, which is without doubt of Roman origin. It is ſituated on the top of the hill, and is now great part of it ſo overgrown with wood as to make it very difficult to trace the lines of it. It is of an oval form, and by a very accurate meaſurement, contains within its bounds the ſpace of one hundred and thirty-ſeven acres. Juſt on the brow of the hill is an entrance into a cave, which has been long filled up by the ſinking of the earth, ſo as to admit a paſſage but a very ſmall way into it, but by antient tradition, it went much further in, under the hill.

The whole of it ſeems to have been antiently fortified according to the nature of the ground, that is, where it is leſs difficult of acceſs by a much ſtronger *vallum* or bank, than where it is more ſo. In the middle of it there are two fine ſprings of water. The vaſt ſize of this area, which is larger even than that at Keſton, in this county, takes away all probability of its having been a Roman ſtation, the largeſt of which, as Dr. Horſley obſerves, that he knew of, not being near a tenth part of this in compaſs. It ſeems more like one of their camps, and might be one of their *caſtra æſtiva*, or ſummer quarters, of which kind they had ſeveral in this county. An intrenchment of like form ſeems to have been at Oldbury hill, in Wiltſhire, which the editor of Camden thought might poſſibly be Daniſh.

There

There are remains of a Roman camp at Oldbury, in Glouceſterſhire, where the paſs of the Romans over the Severn, mentioned by Antonine, is ſuppoſed to have been by Camden. And at Oldbury, near Manchester, in Warwickſhire, are ſuch like remains.

IGHTHAM was held in the reign of king Henry III. by Hamo de Crevequer, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 47th year of that reign, anno 1262, leaving Robert, his grandſon, his heir. By his wife, Maud de Albrincis, or Averenches, he had alſo four daughters, Agnes, wife of John de Sandwich, Iſolda, of Nicholas de Lenham; Elene, of Bertram de Criol; and Iſabel, of Henry de Gaunt.

Robert de Crevequer left one ſon, William, who dying without iſſue, his inheritance devolved on the children of three of the daughters of Hamon de Crevequer, as above-mentioned, Agnes, Iſolda, and Elene, and on the diviſion of their inheritance, Ightham ſeems to have fallen to the ſhare of Nicholas, ſon of Bertram de Criol, by his wife Elene, above-mentioned. He was a man greatly in the king's favour, and was conſtituted by him warden of the five ports, ſheriff of Kent, and governor of Rocheſter caſtle. By Joane his wife, daughter and ſole heir of William de Aubervill, he had Nicholas de Criol, who had ſummons to parliament, and died in the 31ſt year of king Edward the Iſt.'s reign, poſſeſſed of this manor, which his heirs alienated to William de Inge, who held it in the firſt year of king Edward II. and procured free-warren for his lands in Eyghtham,[p] and in the 9th year of it, a market here, to be held on a Monday weekly, and one fair on the feaſt of the apoſtles, St. Peter and St. Paul. In which laſt year he was conſtituted one of the juſtices of the common pleas.[q] He bore for his arms, *Or, a chevron vert.* On his death, in the 15th year of

[p] Rot. Cart. anno 1 Edward II. No. 30.
[q] Dugd. Orig. p. 44. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 691.

that reign, anno 1286, Joane, his daughter, married to Eudo, or Ivo la Zouch, the ſon of William, lord Zouch, of Harringworth, by Maud, daughter of John, lord Lovel, of Tichmarſh, became entitled to it.

His deſcendants continued in the poſſeſſion of this manor till the reign of king Henry VII. when it was alienated to Sir Robert Read, ſerjeant at law, afterwards made chief juſtice of the common pleas,[r] who died in the next reign of king Henry VIII. leaving by Margaret, one of the daughters and coheirs of John Alphew, eſq. of Chidingſtone, one ſon, Edmund, one of the juſtices of the king's bench, who died before him in 1501, and alſo four daughters, who became his coheirs, and on the partition of their inheritance this manor was allotted to Sir Thomas Willoughby,[s] in right of Bridget his wife, the eldeſt of them. He was in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. promoted to the office of chief juſtice of the common pleas, and in the 31ſt year of it, he, among others, procured his lands to be *diſgavelled* by the act then paſſed for that purpoſe. He left Robert his ſon and heir, who alienated this manor to William James, third ſon of Roger James, of London, who was of Dutch parentage, and coming into England in the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. was firſt as being the deſcendant of Jacob Van Haſtrecht, who was antiently ſeated at Cleve near Utrecht, called after the Dutch faſhion Roger Jacobs, and afterwards Roger James, alias Haſtrecht. This Roger James, alias Haſtrecht, had ſeveral ſons and one daughter. Of the former, Roger, the eldeſt, was of Upminſter, in Eſſex, whoſe deſcendants ſettled at Ryegate, in Surry. William, was of Ightham, as before mentioned; Richard had a ſon, who was of Creſhell, in Eſſex; John was of Woodneſborough, in

[r] Philipott, p. 140. See more of him under Chidingſtone, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 219.

[s] See Chidingſtone, Ibid.

this

this county, and George was of Mallendine, in Cliff, near Rocheſter. William-James, the third ſon of Roger as before-mentioned, reſided at Ightham-court, as did his ſon William James, eſq. who was a man much truſted in the uſurpation under Oliver Cromwell, as one of the committee members for the ſequeſtration of the loyaliſts eſtates, during which time he was in five years thrice choſen knight of the ſhire for Kent. His ſon Demetrius was knighted, whoſe ſon William James held his ſhrievalty for this county here in 1732. He left by his wife, daughter of Demetrius James, eſq. of Eſſex, two ſons, Richard his heir, and Demetrius, late rector of this pariſh, and a daughter married to Mr. Hindman. He died in 1780, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon Richard James, eſq. now of Ightham-court, and the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor. He is colonel of the Weſt-Kent regiment of militia, and is at preſent unmarried. The original coat of arms of this family of Haeſtrecht was, *Argent, two bars crenelle, gules, in chief three pheons ſable*; which arms, *without the pheons*, are borne by the ſeveral branches of James, quartered with, *Argent, a chevron between three fer de molins tranſverſe, ſable.*

St. Cleres, alias *Weſt Aldham*, ſituated in the borough of the latter name, is a manor and ſeat in the north-weſt part of this pariſh, adjoining to Kemſing, which was formerly called by the latter name only, and was poſſeſſed by a family of the ſame denomination, who bore for their arms, *Azure, a pile, or.*

Sir Thomas de Aldham was owner of it in the reign of king Richard I. and was with that king at the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine. His deſcendant Sir Thomas de Aldham, poſſeſſed this manor of Aldham in the reign of king Edward II. and dying without male iſſue, his three daughters became his coheirs, the eldeſt of whom married Newborough, called in Latin *de Novo Burgo*, of Dorſetſhire; Margery married Martin Peckham, and Iſolda was the wife of John St. Clere, and on the

diviſion of their inheritance this manor fell to the ſhare of John St. Clere, who poſſeſſed it in his wife's right.[t]

John de St. Clere, written in Latin deeds *De Sancto Claro*, died poſſeſſed of it in the beginning of king Edward III. leaving Iſolda his wife ſurviving, on whoſe death John St. Clere, their ſon, ſucceeded to this manor, which from this family now gained the name of Aldham St. Cleres, and in proceſs of time came to be called by the latter name only, and their deſcendants continued in poſſeſſion of this manor till the beginning of the reign of king Henry VII. when it was alienated to Henry Lovel, who left two daughters his coheirs; Agnes, who married John Empſon, couſin to Sir Richard Empſon, the grand projector; and Elizabeth, married to Anthony Windſor.

John Empſon conveyed his moiety of it, in the 8th year of king Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Bulleyn, afterwards created earl of Wiltſhire and Ormond, and father of the lady Anne Bulleyn, wife to Henry VIII.[u] and Anthony Windſor, in the 10th year of that reign, paſſed his moiety away by ſale to Richard Farmer, who that year purchaſed of Sir Thomas Bulleyn the other part, and ſo became poſſeſſed of the whole of this manor of St. Cleres. In the 28th year of that reign, Richard Farmer conveyed it to George Multon, eſq. of Hadlow who removed hither. He bore for his arms, *Or, three bars vert*; being the ſame arms as thoſe borne by Sir John Multon, lord Egremond, whoſe heir general married the lord Fitzwalter, excepting in the difference of the colours, the latter bearing it, *Argent, three bars, gules*. His grandſon Robert Multon, eſq. was of St. Cleres, and lies buried with his anceſtors in this church. He alienated this manor and eſtate, in the reign of Charles I. to Sir John Sidley, knight and baronet, a younger branch of thoſe of Southfleet and

[t] Philipott, p. 141, and 374

[u] See Hever, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 192.

Aylesford,

Aylesford, in this county, who erected here a manſion for his reſidence, which is now remaining. He was deſcended from William Sedley, eſq. of Southfleet, who lived in the reign of king Edward VI. and left three ſons, of whom John was anceſtor of the Sedleys, of Southfleet and Aylesford; Robert was the ſecond ſon, and Nicholas the third ſon, by Jane, daughter and coheir of Edward Iſaac, eſq. of Bekeſborne, afterwards married to Sir Henry Palmer, left one ſon, Iſaac Sidley, who was of Great Chart, created a baronet in 1621, and ſheriff of this county in the 2d year of Charles I. whoſe ſon Sir John Sidley, knight and baronet, purchaſed St. Cleres, as above-mentioned.[w] He left two ſons, Iſaac and John, who both ſucceeded to the title of baronet. The eldeſt ſon, Sir Iſaac Sidley, bart. ſucceeded his father in this eſtate, and was of St. Cleres, as was his ſon, Sir Charles Sidley, bart. who dying without iſſue in 1702, was buried in Ightham church. By his will he deviſed this manor, with the ſeat and his eſtates in this pariſh, to his uncle John, who ſucceeded him in the title of baronet, for his life, with remainder to George Sedley, his eldeſt ſon, in tale male. But Sir Charles having been for ſome time before his death, and at the time of his making his will of weak underſtanding, and under undue influence, Sir John Sedley conteſted the validity of it, and it was ſet aſide by the ſentence in the prerogative court of Canterbury.

Soon after which Sir John, and his ſon George Sedley above-mentioned, entered into an agreement, by which Sir John Sedley waved his right as heir at law, and his further right to conteſt the will. In conſequence of which an act of parliament was obtained for the ſettling in truſtees the manor of Weſt Aldham, alias St. Cleres, with its appurtenances, and the capital

[w] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Ped. Sidley. Kimber's Baronetage, vol. iii. p. 1.

meſſuage called St. Cleres, in Ightham, and other meſſuages and lands in Ightham, Wrotham, Kemſing, Seal, &c. that they might be ſold for the purpoſes of the agreement, which the whole of them were ſoon afterwards to William Evelyn, eſq. the fifth ſon of George Evelyn, eſq. of Nutfield, in Surry, who afterwards reſided here, and in 1723 was ſheriff of this county.

He married firſt the daughter and heir of William Glanvill, eſq. and in the 5th year of king George I. obtained an act of parliament to uſe the ſurname and arms of Glanvill only, the latter being *Argent, a chief indented azure*, purſuant to the will of William Glanvill, eſq. above-mentioned. By her he had an only daughter Frances, married to the hon. Edward Boſcawen, next brother to Hugh, viſcount Falmouth, and admiral of the Britiſh fleet. His ſecond wife was daughter of Jones Raymond, eſq. who died in 1761, by whom he had William Glanvill Evelyn, eſq. who on his father's deceaſe in 1766, ſucceeded to St. Cleres and the reſt of his eſtates in this county. In 1757 he kept his ſhrievalty at St. Cleres, where he reſides at preſent, and is one of the repreſentatives in parliament for Hythe, in this county.

He married about the year 1760, Suſan, one of the two daughters and coheirs of Thomas Borrett, eſq. of Shoreham, late prothonotary of the court of common pleas, by whom he had a ſon, William Evelyn, eſq. who died in 1788 at Blandford-lodge, near Woodſtock, by a fall from his horſe, æt. 21, and unmarried; and a daughter Frances, afterwards his ſole heir, married in 1782 to Alexander Hume, eſq. of Hendley, in Surry, brother of Sir Abraham Hume, who in 1797 had the royal licence to take and uſe the name and arms of Evelyn only, and he now reſides at St. Clere.

THE MOAT is another borough in this pariſh, in which is the manor and ſeat of that name, lying at the ſouthern extremity of it next to Shipborne, which in the reign of king Henry II. was in the poſſeſſion of

Ivo

Ivo de Haut, and his deſcendant, Sir Henry de Haut, died poſſeſſed of it in the 44th year of Edward III. as appears by the eſcheat roll of that year. His ſon, Sir Edmund de Haut, died in his life-time, ſo that his grandſon, Nicholas Haut, became his heir, and ſucceeded him in the poſſeſſion of this eſtate.[x]

He was ſheriff in the 19th year of king Richard II. and kept his ſhrievalty at Wadenhall, in this county. He left two ſons, William, who was of Biſhopſborne; and Richard Haut, who ſucceeded him in this eſtate, and was ſheriff in the 18th and 22d years of king Edward IV. keeping both his ſhrievalties at this ſeat of *themoat*; but having engaged, with ſeveral others of the gentry of this county, with the duke of Buckingham, in favor of the Earl of Richmond, he was beheaded at Pontefract, anno 1 Richard III. and afterwards attainted in the 3d year of that reign, and his eſtates confiſcated.[y] Quickly after which, this manor and ſeat were granted by that king to Robert Brakenbury, lieutenant of the tower of London, and that year ſheriff of this county. He kept poſſeſſion of the Moat but a ſmall time, for he loſt his life with king Richard in the fatal battle of Boſworth, fought that year on Auguſt 22, and on the Earl of Richmond's attaining the crown was attainted by an act then paſſed for the purpoſe, and though his two daughters were reſtored in blood by another act four years afterwards, yet the Moat was immediately reſtored to the heirs of its former owner Richard Haut, whoſe attainder was likewiſe reverſed, and in their deſcendants it remained till the latter end of the reign of king Henry VII. when it appears by an old court roll to have been in the poſſeſſion of Sir Richard Clement, who kept his ſhrievalty at the Moat in the 23d year of king Henry VIII. and bore for his arms, *A bend nebulee, in chief three fleurs de lis*

[x] Philipott, p. 142. and MSS. pedigree of Haut.
[y] Rot. Pat. ejus an. Memb. 6. Philipott, p. 142.

within

within a border, gobinated. He died without any legitimate iſſue, and was buried in the chancel of this church. Upon which his brother, John Clement, and his ſiſter, married to Sir Edward Palmer, of Angmering, in Suſſex, became his coheirs, but the former ſucceeded to the entire fee of this eſtate.

John Clement died without male iſſue, leaving an only daughter and heir Anne, who carried the Moat in marriage to Hugh Pakenham, and he, in the reign of king Edward VI. joining with Sir William Sydney, who had married Anne, his only daughter and heir, paſſed it away to Sir John Allen, who had been of the privy council to king Henry VIII. and lord mayor of London in the year 1526 and 1536. He was of the company of mercers, a man of liberal charity. He gave to the city of London a rich collar of gold, to be worn by the ſucceeding lord-mayors: alſo five hundred marcs as a ſtock for ſea coal, and the rents of thoſe lands which he had purchaſed of the king, to the poor of London for ever; and during his life he gave bountifully to the hoſpitals, priſons, &c. of that city. He built the mercers chapel in Cheapſide, in which his body was buried, which was afterwards moved into the body of the hoſpital church of St. Thomas, of Acon, and the chapel made into ſhops by the mercer's company. He bore for his arms, *In three roundlets, as many talbots paſſant, on a chief a lion paſſant guardant between two anchors.*[z]

He left a ſon and heir Sir Chriſtopher Allen, whoſe ſon and heir, Charles Allen, eſq. ſucceeded his father in this eſtate, and reſided at the Moat, which he afterwards ſold at the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth to Sir William Selby, younger brother of Sir John Selby, of Branxton, in Northumberland. He reſided here in the latter part of his life, and died greatly advanced in years in 1611, unmarried, and was buried in this church, bearing for his arms, *Barry of*

[z] Strype's Stow's Survey, book iii. p. 38.

twelve

twelve pieces, or, and azure. He by his will gave this eſtate to his nephew, Sir William Selby, who reſided here, and died likewiſe without iſſue, and by his will, for the ſake of the name gave the Moat to Mr. George Selby, of London, who afterwards reſided here, and was ſheriff in the 24th year of king Charles I. and bore for his arms, *Barry of eight pieces, or and ſable.* He died in 1667, leaving ſeveral ſons and daughters. Of whom William Selby, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded to this eſtate, and was of the Moat. He married Suſan, daughter of Sir John Rainey, bart. of Wrotham, by whom he had ſeveral children, of whom John Selby, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, was of the Moat, and by Mary his wife, one of the three daughters and coheirs of Thomas Gifford, eſq. left two ſons, William, who ſucceeded him in this ſeat and eſtate at Ightham, and John Selby, eſq. who was of Pennis, in Fawkham, and died unmarried.

William Selby reſided at the Moat, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1773, leaving his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Burroughs, ſurviving, who afterwards poſſeſſed this ſeat and reſided here. She died in 1788, and her only ſon, William Selby, eſq. of Pennis, having deceaſed in 1777, and his only daughter and heir likewiſe, Elizabeth Borough Selby, by Elizabeth his wife, one of the daughters of John Weſton, eſq. of Cranbrook, under age, and unmarried in 1781. This ſeat, with her other eſtates in this county, devolved to John Brown, eſq. who has ſince taken the name of Selby, and now reſides at the Moat, of which he is the preſent poſſeſſor.

The park, called Ightham park, has been already mentioned under the pariſh of Wrotham, to which the reader is referred.

It appears by the viſitation of 1619, that there was a branch of the Suliards, of Braſted, then reſiding in this pariſh.

John Gull reſided in this pariſh in the reign of king Henry VIII. and died here in 1547.

CHARITIES.

CHARITIES.

HENRY PEARCE gave by will in 1545, to be diſtributed to the poor in bread yearly the annual ſum of 6s. 8d. charged on land now veſted in Cozens, and ſhe gave beſides to be diſtributed to the poor in bread at Eaſter yearly, 40l. now of the annual produce of 2l. and for the providing of books for poor children to learn the catechiſm, the ſum of 10l. now of the annual produce of 10s.

HENRY FAIRBRASSE gave by will in 1601, to be diſtributed in like manner, the annual ſum of 1l. to be paid out of land now veſted in William Hacker.

WILLIAM JAMES, ESQ. gave by will in 1627, to be diſtributed in bread to the poor every Sunday, the annual ſum of 2l. 12s. to be paid out of lands now veſted in Rich. James, eſq.

GEORGE PETLEY gave by will in 1705, to be diſtributed in like manner, every Sunday, 2s. the annual ſum of 5l. 4s. to be paid out of land veſted in William Evelyn, eſq.

ELIZABETH JAMES, gave by will in 1720, for the education of poor children, the annual ſum of 5l. to be paid out of land now veſted in Elizabeth Solley.

IGHTHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and being a *peculiar* of the archbiſhop, is as ſuch in the *deanry* of Shoreham.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter. Under an arch on the north ſide of it, there is a tomb of free ſtone, having on it a very antient figure at full length of a man in armour, ornamented with a rich belt, ſword and dagger, his head reſting on two cuſhions, and a lion at his feet, over his whole breaſt are his arms, viz. *A lion rampant, ermine, double queued.* This is by moſt ſuppoſed to be the tomb of Sir Thomas Cawne, who married Lora, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Morant. He was originally extracted from Staffordſhire: he probably died without iſſue, and his widow remarried with James Peckham, eſq. of Yaldham. His arms, impaling thoſe of Morant, were in one of the chancel windows of this church.

The rectory is valued in the king's books at 15l. 16s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 11s. 8d. It is now of the yearly value of about 200l.

The

The patronage of this rectory ſeems to have been always accounted an appendage to the manor of Ightham, as ſuch it is now the property of Richard James, eſq. of Ightham-court.

CHURCH OF IGHTHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Lords of the manor of Ightham ...	*Richard Aſtall*, A. M. ob. Aug 21, 1546.[a]
	Henry Farbrace, A. M. obt. Feb. 21, 1601.[b]
	..... *Hart*, obt. 1628.
	..... *Grimes*, in 1643.[c]
	..... *Alexander*, ejected 1662.[d]
	John Hickford, in 1690.
	Ralph Leigh, 1744, obt. May 1760.
	..... *Halford*, obt. 1763.
	Samuel Dawſon, A. M. inſt. 1763, obt. 1769.
	Temple Henry Croker, A. M. preſented 1769. obt. 1773.
	Demetrius James, 1773, obt. Feb. 1781.[e]
	Peter James, Feb. 1781, obt. Sept. 1794.[f]
	George Biteſea, A. M. Nov. 1791, the preſent rector.

a He was alſo rector of Chevening, and preb. of Wingham, and lies buried in this church Weever, p. 327.

b And vicar of Farningham, where he lies buried.

c See Ruthworth, vol. vi. p. 277.

d Ejected by the Bartholomew Act. Cal. Life of Baxter, p. 286.

e Second ſon of William James, eſq. late lord of the manor.

f He was maſter of Greenwich academy.

SHIPBORNE.

SOUTHWARD from Ightham lies SHIPBORNE, called in the *Textus Roffenſis*, SCRIBURNA.

THIS PARISH lies the greateſt part of it below the ſand hills, and conſequently in that part of this county

county called the Weald. The village is ſituated at a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from the foot of the hill, round Shipborne green, having the church at the weſt ſide of it; and about half a mile further weſtward, near the boundary of the pariſh, is *Budd's green.* On the riſe of the hill is the manſion of Fairlawn, the offices and great part of the grounds of which are within this pariſh, where the ſoil is a clay, being a heavy tillage land; in the ſouthern part, at and about the hill, it is a ſand and rock ſtone; at the ſouth-eaſt part of it there is much coppice wood, a deep and miry country at all times, moſt of it being exceedingly unpleaſant either to live in or to travel through.

The fair continues to be held on the day of St. Giles the abbot, being Sept. 1, yearly.

JOHN DE SAY ſeems in the reign of Henry III. to have held in Siburne, of the earl of Glouceſter, one knight's fee, and the fifth part of one,[g] which ſoon afterwards paſſed to Adam de Bavent, the principal poſſeſſions of whoſe family lay in Suſſex and Surry.

Adam de Bavent, in the 12th year of Edward I. obtained a grant of free warren for his lands in Shipborne, and a market to be held weekly on a Monday, at his manor of Shipborne, and one fair yearly on the feaſt of St. Giles the abbot. In the 28th year of that reign, he was with the king at the ſiege of Carlaverock, in Scotland.

Hawis, widow of Sir Roger de Bavent, his deſcendant, in the 36th year of king Edward III. releaſed to the prioreſs and convent of the priory of Dartford, then newly erected, all her right, in the manor of Shipborne, which that king by his patent of endowment, in his 46th year, confirmed to them, together with all knights fees, and other things belonging to it.

[g] Book of Knights fees in the Exchequer.

This

This manor continued part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Dartford till the general diſſolution of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, who in his 36th year granted to Sir Ralph Fane, and Anthony Tutſham, eſq. the manor of Shipborne, late belonging to the monaſtery of Dartford, and the manor of Shipborne, alias Puttenden, lying on the eaſt ſide of this pariſh, next to Weſt Peckham, and late belonging to the monaſtery of Tunbridge, and the lands and chapel of Shipborne, with all their appurtenances, &c. to hold of the king *in capite* by knight's ſervice;[h] ſoon after which Anthony Tutſham releaſed all his right and intereſt in them to Sir Ralf Fane.

He had been knighted at the ſiege of Bulleyn in 1544, and afterwards for his valour at the battle of Muſſelborough, in the 1ſt year of king Edward VI. made a knight banneret; but in the 6th year of that reign, having warmly eſpouſed the intereſt of the duke of Somerſet, he was accuſed of being an accomplice with him, and being found guilty was hanged on Tower-hill, that year. After his death, without iſſue, theſe manors, together with the lands and chapel of Shipborne, came into the poſſeſſion of Henry Fane, great grandſon of Henry Fane, of Hilden, in Tunbridge, who was grandfather of Sir Ralph Fane, above-mentioned.

Henry Fane, eſq. was of Hadlow, and after the deceaſe of his father was unwarily drawn into that inſurrection raiſed by Sir Thomas Wyatt, in the 1ſt year of queen Mary, and being taken was committed to the Tower and attainted, but on conſideration of his youth he had pardon, and was releaſed from his impriſonment.

Next year being the 1ſt and 2d of Philip and Mary, he had a grant of theſe manors, and chapel of Ship-

[h] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 23. Philipott, p. 314.

borne,

borne, from the queen, to hold to him and his heirs, by the ſame ſervices, by which they were held before his attainder. He died in 1582, the 25th year of queen Elizabeth, poſſeſſed at the time of his death, as appears by the inquiſition then taken of theſe manors.

Henry Fane, his grandſon, aſſumed the name of Vane, the antient one of his anceſtors, which his poſterity have continued to uſe ever ſince.

In the 17th year of king James I. he was knighted at Whitehall, from which time he acted a conſpicuous part in the public affairs of this nation, and was choſen to ſit in every ſucceeding parliament, both in that and the next reign. King Charles I. entruſted him much in different negociations with foreign princes, made him cofferer of his houſhold, and of his privy council, and in 1632 one of the commiſſioners for executing the office of lord high admiral. He was afterwards much employed in commiſſions of the greateſt weight, with others of the higheſt office and quality, and was made comptroller of the houſhold, at which time he purchaſed of Sir George Chowne, THE MANSION OF FAIRLAWN, with the lands belonging to it, ſituated in the borough of Plaxtool, in Wrotham and this pariſh.[1] After which he was made treaſurer of the king's houſhold, and principal ſecretary of ſtate, and empowered to hold thoſe two offices together.

But not long after, on his appearing forward in the proſecution of the earl of Strafford, who had implacably offended him, by obtaining the title of baron Raby, which was Sir Henry's houſe, and an honor which he had hopes of acquiring himſelf, the king took ſuch umbrage at it, that he removed him from all his places, and Sir Henry from that time concurred

[1] Philipott, p. 315. See a further account of it under Wrotham.

in

in all the malicious deſigns of the king's enemies, and forgetting all former obligations, ſacrificed every principle of honor and loyalty to his implacable thirſt of revenge; but in the end, finding himſelf growing into the hatred and contempt of thoſe who had made moſt uſe of him, as well as of his own ſon,[k] he retired to his ſeat of Raby-caſtle, in the biſhopric of Durham, where he died in the latter end of the year 1654. He left ſeveral ſons and daughters, of whom Henry became his heir, and George was of Long Melford, in Durham.[l]

Henry Vane, eſq. ſucceeded his father in his eſtate, in Shipborne. He had been knighted at Whitehall in 1640, but from his education at Geneva had imbibed ſuch a ſharp prejudice and bitterneſs, as well againſt regal government as the hierarchy of the church, and this being heightened by the king's giving away the barony of Raby from his family, that following his inclination, he aſſociated with the moſt diſcontented perſons of that time, ſo that he became one of the moſt inveterate of the independent and republican faction. He had been made by the king joint treaſurer of the navy, by the intereſt of the earl of Northumberland, during which he affected to be ſatisfied with government, and afterwards, when his real inclinations came to be more openly known, he was intruſted with the ſame office ſolely by the appointment of the parliament. On the reſtoration of king Charles II. being excepted out of the general pardon, he was committed to priſon, where he was kept ſome time, and at length being brought to his trial, he was convicted of high treaſon, and receiving ſentence of death, was executed on Tower-hill in 1662. Thomas Vane, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded his father in his eſtates in this pariſh. He married

[k] Clarendon's Hiſtory, vol. ii. p. 163.
[l] Collins's Peerage, vol. vi. p. 135.

Frances, daughter of Sir Thomas Liddel, of Ravensworth, in Durham, and died without iſſue, on which his eſtates devolved to his brother Chriſtopher Vane, eſq. who was of Fairlawn, and was afterwards knighted by Charles II. In 1688, he was made by king James of his privy council, and in the 10th year of king William III. anno 1699, created lord Barnard, of Barnard caſtle, in the biſhopric of Durham.[m]

He married Elizabeth, eldeſt daughter of Gilbert Holles, earl of Clare, and ſiſter and coheir of John, duke of Newcaſtle, by whom he left ſurviving two ſons, Gilbert and William, and a daughter Grace. He died at his ſeat of Fairlawn, in 1723, and was buried in the new church of Sittingborne, built by his own bounty. On which Gilbert, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in title, and in his eſtates in the north, and William, his ſecond ſon, became poſſeſſed of his father's eſtates in Shipborne, Plaxtool, and elſewhere in this county.

The arms of the ſeveral branches of the Eanes, or Vanes, are *three gauntlets*, though differently borne. The earl of Weſtmoreland bears, *Azure, three dexter gauntlets, with their backs affrontee, or*; as did the lord viſcount Fane, a deſcendant of the ſame branch. The earl of Darlington bears, *Azure, three ſiniſter gauntlets, with their backs affrontee, or.* And lord viſcount Vane bore, *Azure, three ſiniſter gauntlets, or, on a canton ermine, a pile ſable, charged with a mullet of five points, argent.*

William Vane, eſq. the ſecond ſon, was of Fairlawn, and was choſen to ſerve in parliament for Durham, in the year 1708, and in 1720 was created viſcount Vane, and baron of Duncannon, of Tyrone, in Ireland. He died ſuddenly of an apoplexy at Fairlawn, May 20, 1734, having on the Friday before, the

[m] See the Caſe of the Vanes, as heirs to the Duke of Newcaſtle, in Brown's Caſes in Parliament, vol. v. p. 435.

17th

17th, been declared duly elected to ſerve in parliament for this county, and was buried in Shipborne church. Upon which, William Hollis Vane, his only ſurviving ſon, became his father's heir, and ſucceeded him in titles and eſtate. He married Frances, daughter of Francis Hawes, eſq. one of the South Sea directors in 1720, and widow of lord William Hamilton, younger brother of James, duke of Hamilton, by whom he had no iſſue, and dying in 1789, by his will gave theſe manors, his ſeat of Fairlawn, and the rectory of the chapel of Shipborne, among his other eſtates to David Papillon, eſq. of Acriſe, the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

Budds is a hamlet in this pariſh, lying about three quarters of a mile weſtward from Shipborne church, where a family of the name of Collins formerly dwelt. Henry Collins reſided here in the reigns of king Henry VIII. king Edward VI. queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth, and dying in the 35th year of the latter, was buried in this church. His eldeſt ſon, Richard Collins, gent. was likewiſe of Budds. They bore for their arms, *Vert, a griffin ſegreant, or, beaked argent, gorged with a coronet of the third.* How long it continued afterwards in this name I have not found, but John Turner, gent. in the reign of king James I. reſided at Budds, and bore for his arms, *Argent and ermine, three fer de molins, or, a pale counterchanged in feſs, on a chief, or, a lion paſſant guardant between two roſes.* It is now the property of George Children, eſq. of Tunbridge.

CHARITIES.

Francis Collins, by will in 1599. gave for the uſe of the poor the annual ſum of 1l. charged on the houſe called the Bull inn, in Rocheſter, and 2l. likewiſe on lands in Gillingham, veſted in Mr. Page.

N. B. This laſt pays the land tax, and the two bequeſts by journeys, expences, &c. reduces them to the annual produce of 2l. 7s. 6d.

JOHN SWAN gave by will 10l. and his executors by deed in 1614, purchaſed with it an annuity of 10s. for the uſe of the poor, charged on lands in this pariſh, veſted in the heirs of John Bellingham, lately deceaſed, and now of that annual produce.

STEPHEN FREMLYN, by will in 1717, gave by deed, for the uſe of the poor, the annual ſum of 1l. to be paid out of lands and tenements in this pariſh, veſted in Mr. William Collins, and now of that annual produce.

SHIPBORNE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church is dedicated to St. Giles, and is a neat fabric. It was entirely rebuilt from the ground by the bounty of Chriſtopher, lord Barnard, in the beginning of this century.

It was antiently eſteemed as a chapel to the church of Tunbridge, and paid ſix-pence *chriſm* rent to the mother church of the dioceſe.

John, biſhop of Rocheſter, in the 7th year of king Edward II. certified to the king's treaſurer and barons of the exchequer, in obedience to the king's writ, directed to him for that purpoſe, that the prior of the hoſpital of St. John of Jeruſalem had within his dioceſe the appropriation of the church of Tonebregge, with the chapels of Schibourne and St. Thomas the Martyr, which was worth yearly thirty-four marcs, being part of the antient poſſeſſions of that hoſpital, and upon a like writ in the 20th year of Edward III. Hamo, biſhop of Rocheſter, certified to the king's treaſurer, &c. a like return.[n]

The chapel of Shipborne belonged to that part of their revenues which was under the cognizance of their preceptory or commendary of Peckham, otherwiſe called the *chantry magiſtrale* in this neighbourhood, and it remained part of the poſſeſſions of the abovementioned hoſpital till the time of its diſſolution in

[n] See more of this chapel under Tunbridge.

the

the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when this order of knights was ſuppreſſed by an act then ſpecially paſſed for that purpoſe, by which all their lands and revenues, &c. were given to the king and his heirs for ever. After which the king, in his 36th year, granted to Sir Ralph Fane, and Anthony Tutſham, eſq. among other premiſes in this pariſh, the lands and chapel of Shipborne, with their appurtenances, in fee, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice.[o] Soon after which, Anthony Tutſham releaſed all his intereſt in them to Sir Ralph Fane, in whoſe family they continued, as has been already fully related in the account of the manor of Shipborne, down to William Holles viſcount Vane, who deviſed them by will to David Papillon, eſq. the preſent owner of them.

This chapel is now eſteemed as *a curacy*, and is not in charge in the king's books. It pays a *fee-farm* rent of eight ſhillings yearly to the crown.

CHAPEL OF SHIPBORNE.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	CURATES.
Family of Fane, alias Vane	..... *Bowles*, in 1627.[p]
	..... *Scott*, in 1680.
	Theophilus Beck, 1690.
	William Davis, in 1721, obt. Jan. 29, 1747.[q]
	Leonard Addiſon, M. A.[r]
	John Francis, M. A.[s]
	—— *Hemington*.[t]
	Henry Auſten, M. A.[u]
	—— *Knox*.[x]
David Papillon, eſq.	*Viceſimus Knox*, the preſent curate.[y]

o Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 23.

p MSS. Twyſden.

q He was alſo vicar of Tunbridge, where he lies buried.

r Afterwards rector of Saul and Cawſton, and vicar of Saxthorpe, Norfolk.

s Afterwards vicar of Soham, Cambridgeſhire.

t Afterwards vicar of Tunbridge.

u Afterwards rector of Weſt Wickham.

x Maſter of Tunbridge ſchool.

y Maſter of Tunbridge ſchool, and vicar of Hadlow, vice Wm. Fitzherbert, deceaſed.

THE HUNDRED OF LITTLEFIELD.

SOUTHWARD from Wrotham hundred lies the hundred of Littlefield, called in Domeſday *Littlefelle*, and in ſome records, *Leighfield*.

This hundred takes its name from the ſmallneſs of its extent, for it contains within its bounds only the pariſh of

MEREWORTH,

AND PART OF THE PARISH OF

WEST PECKHAM,

And the churches of thoſe pariſhes, and part of the pariſhes of HADLOW and EAST PECKHAM, the churches of which are in another hundred.

THIS HUNDRED, in the beginning of the reign of king Edward II. was in the poſſeſſion of the crown, where it ſtaid till that king, in his 15th year, granted it, by conſent of parliament, among other eſtates of greater value, to Edmund, of Woodſtock, his half-brother, whom he at the ſame time made Earl of Kent. After the death of whoſe two ſons, Joane their ſiſter became their heir,[r] and her huſband Sir Thomas Holand poſſeſſed this hundred in her right, who for her great beauty was called the *fair maid of Kent*, in whoſe right he was alſo earl of Kent. After his death ſhe married Edward the black prince. She was ſucceeded in the poſſeſſion of this hundred by Thomas Holand, earl of Kent, her ſon by her firſt huſband, whoſe eldeſt ſon Thomas Holand, was afterwards created Duke of Surry, and continuing loyal

[r] See Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 92, 94. Rot. Eſch.

to

to the cauſe of king Richard II, loſt his life in a tumult at Cirenceſter, in the 1ſt year of king Henry IV. and was next year attainted in parliament. He died without iſſue, and his brother Edmund, earl of Kent, before the end of that year obtained, by virtue of an old entail, this hundred, among other eſtates, of which his brother had died poſſeſſed, and leaving no iſſue, his four ſiſters became his coheirs, and on the partition of his eſtates, this hundred was allotted to Joane, his fourth ſiſter, ducheſs of York, who appears by the eſcheat rolls to have died without iſſue, in the 12th year of king Henry VI. poſſeſſed of it.

Upon the partition of her inheritance among her ſiſters, Margaret, firſt wife of John, earl of Somerſet, and afterwards of Thomas, duke of Clarence, became entitled to it. She died in the 18th year of that reign, leaving John, earl of Somerſet, her ſon by her firſt huſband, her next heir.

How the hundred of Littlefield paſſed afterwards I have not found, but in the reign of king Henry VIII. it was part of the poſſeſſions of the crown,[s] where it remained till king Edward VI. in the 4th year of his reign, granted it in fee to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, who was the next year created duke of Northumberland.

He, in the 7th year of that reign, ſold it to the king, in exchange for other manors and lands.

This hundred ſeems to have remained in the crown till the 32d year of queen Elizabeth, who then granted the hundreds of Littlefield, alias Leighfield, and of Wachelſton, alias Chadlington, to Sir Wm. Brooke, lord Cobham, whoſe ſon Henry, lord Cobham, in the firſt year of king James I. being accuſed with others of a conſpiracy to kill the king, and ſubvert the government, was found guilty, and had judgment of death pronounced againſt him, though the ſentence

[s] Inrolments Augtn. office, anno 4 Edward VI.

was afterwards, through the king's clemency ſuperſeded. Upon his attaint, this among the reſt of his eſtates, became forfeited to the crown, and was confirmed to it by the act paſſed in the 3d year of king James for that purpoſe, ſince which this hundred has continued among the poſſeſſions of the crown, where it remains at preſent.

WEST, ALIAS LITTLE PECKHAM.

EASTWARD from Shipborne lies the pariſh of Weſt, alias Little Peckham, called in Domeſday, PECHEHAM, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, PECHAM.

It has the appellation of Weſt Peckham, from its ſituation weſtward of Great, or Eaſt Peckham, and of Little, from its ſmallneſs in regard to that pariſh. They both probably had their name from their ſituation, *peac* ſignifying in Saxon, the peke, or ſummit of an hill, and *ham*, a village, or dwelling-place.

THE QUARRY STONE HILLS bound the northern ſide of this pariſh, conſequently the whole of it is within the diſtrict of the Weald. The ſoil is in general a ſtiff clay, and in the lower or ſouthern part of it where it is moſtly paſture, it is very rich grazing land. The northern part adjoining to the hill is covered with thoſe woods, commonly called *the Herſt woods*, from which there are ſeveral fine ſprings of water, which extend over the eaſtern parts of this pariſh, where, near the boundary of it, next to Mereworth, is the village, with the church. The northern ſide of this pariſh is watered by the ſtream which flows hither from Plaxtool, and from hence into the Medway at Brandt-bridge, a little above Yaldham, having turned two corn-mills in its courſe within this pariſh. The ſeat of Hamptons, now almoſt in ruins, ſtands near the eaſt ſide of this ſtream, in a wild gloomy ſituation,

ſituation, and at a ſmall diſtance, that of Oxenhoath, an antient brick building, ſituated on a riſe of ground, having a moſt extenſive proſpect over the Weald, and again to the hills north-eaſtward, the ground about it is finely wooded, and is the greateſt part of it exceeding rich paſture.

There were antiently *two parks* in this pariſh, both of which were diſparked at the time Lambarde wrote his Perambulation in 1570.

There is a fair held in this village yearly, on the 16th of June.

This pariſh, with others in this neighbourhood, was antiently bound to contribute to the repair of the fifth pier of Rocheſter bridge.

LITTLE PECKHAM before the conqueſt was in the poſſeſſion of earl Leofwine, who as well as his brother, king Harold, loſt their lives in the fatal battle of Haſtings. After which William the Conqueror gave it to Odo, biſhop of Baieux, his half-brother, whom he likewiſe made earl of Kent, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken about the year 1080.

Corbin holds Pecheham of the biſhop (of Baieux). It was taxed at two ſulings; the arable land is ſix carucates. In demeſne there is one, and twelve villeins, having five carucates, and eight borderers, and five ſervants, and three acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of ten hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth twelve pounds, now eight pounds, and yet it yields twelve pounds. The king has of this manor three dens, where four villeins dwell, and are worth forty ſhillings. Earl Leuin held it.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, about four years afterwards, this among the reſt of his eſtates was confiſcated to the crown.

In the reign of king John, the manor of Weſt Peckham, then valued at fifteen pounds, was held in ſergeantry, by a family of the name of Bendeville,

by

by the ſervice of bearing one of the king's goſhawks, beyond ſea, from the feaſt of St. Michael to that of the Purification, when the king demanded it, in lieu of all other ſervices. Soon after which it came into the poſſeſſion of a family who took their ſurname from it.

John de Peckham held it in the reign of king Henry III. and his deſcendant, John de Peckham, died poſſeſſed of it in the 21ſt year of king Edward I. holding it *in capite*, by the ſervice above-mentioned.[t] Soon after which it paſſed into the poſſeſſion of Robert Scarlet, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 33d year of that reign, but in the next of king Edward II. Adam at Broke was poſſeſſed of it. He died in the 11th year of it, both of them holding it *in capite* by the ſervice mentioned above. And it appears, that in the latter year it was accounted a manor, and that there were here a capital meſſuage, pidgeon-houſe, rents of aſſize, and one hundred and eighty-four acres of land and wood.

His widow, Dioniſia at Broke, died poſſeſſed of it in the 5th year of king Edward III. after which this manor ſeems to have been ſeparated into moieties.

John de Mereworth, of Mereworth, died in the 39th year of that reign, poſſeſſed of a moiety of the manor of Weſt Peckham, which he held of the king *in capite*, by the ſervice before mentioned. Since which it has paſſed through the ſame tract of ownerſhip that the manor of Mereworth has; as may be more fully ſeen hereafter in the deſcription of it, and it is now, as well as that manor, in the poſſeſſion of the right hon. Thomas Stapleton, lord le Deſpencer.

THE OTHER MOIETY of the manor of Weſt Peckham, after the death of Dioniſia at Broke, in the 5th year of king Edward III. came into the poſſeſſion of

[t] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. No. 35, *p. ſervicium mutandi unum Oſturcum per ann.*

Lionel,

Lionel, duke of Clarence, the king's third ſon, in right of his wife Elizabeth, ſole daughter and heir of William de Burgh, earl of Ulſter. She died in the 38th year of that reign, leaving by him an only daughter, Philippa, ſurviving her, who died in the 43d year of it, and the duke being then poſſeſſed of the moiety of this manor, which he held by the law of England, as of the inheritance of Elizabeth his late wife deceaſed, *in capite* by knight's ſervice, Philippa, his daughter above-mentioned, then counteſs of March, was found to be his next heir. Upon which Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, her huſband, had poſſeſſion granted of it that year. Soon after which this moiety came into the poſſeſſion of that branch of the family of Colepeper ſettled at Oxenhoath, in this pariſh, in which it remained till Sir John Colepeper, one of the judges of the common pleas, in the reign of king Henry IV. gave it to the knight's hoſpitallers of St. John of Jeruſalem, in the 10th year of that reign, anno 1408.

They eſtabliſhed *a preceptory* within this manor, which continued part of their poſſeſſions till the general diſſolution of their hoſpital in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when this order was ſuppreſſed by an act then ſpecially paſſed for that purpoſe, and all their lands and revenues were given by it to the king and his heirs for ever. It was at that time ſtiled *the Preceptory*, or commandery of Weſt Peckham, otherwiſe called the *Chantry Magiſtrale*. A preceptory or commandery, was a convenient manſion belonging to theſe knights, of which ſort they had ſeveral on their different eſtates, in each of which they had a ſociety of their brethren placed to take care of their lands and rents in that reſpective neighbourhood.

This manor of Weſt Peckham, for ſo it was then ſtiled, together with the preceptory, was valued at the above diſſolution at 63l. 6s. 8d. annual revenue, and ſixty pounds clear income.

King

King Henry VIII. in his 33d year, granted the fee of this manor, with it appurtenances to Sir Robert Southwell, of Mereworth, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice, and he in the 35th year of that reign, alienated it to Sir Edmund Walſingham. In which name and family this manor continued till the latter end of the reign of king Charles I. when Sir Thomas Walſingham, of Scadbury,[u] alienated it, with Yokes-place, and other eſtates in this neighbourhood, to his ſon in law, Mr. James Maſter, of Yokes, in the adjoining pariſh of Mereworth, Sir Tho. Walſingham having married the widow of Mr. Nathaniel Maſter, Mr. James Maſter's father; ſince which it has paſſed in like manner as that ſeat, into the poſſeſſion of the right hon. George Bing, viſcount Torrington, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

HAMPTONS is a ſeat in this pariſh, ſituated at the weſtern extremity of it, which, as well as the borough of that name, is accounted within the hundred and manor of Great Hoo, near Rocheſter. In the reign of queen Elizabeth it was in the poſſeſſion of John Stanley, gent. who reſided here, being the ſon of W. Stanley, gent. of Wilmington, whoſe grandfather, John Stanley, gent. was of Wilmington, in Lancaſhire, and bore for his arms, *Argent, on a bend, azure, three bucks heads caboſhed, or, a chief gules.* And it appears, by an antient pedigree of the family of Stanley, well drawn with the ſeveral bearings of arms, now in the hands of William Daliſon, eſq. that the Stanleys of this county were deſcended of the eldeſt branch of that family, being the direct deſcendants of William de Stanley, lord of Stanley, in Staffordſhire, and of Stourton, in the 10th year of king Richard II. the elder brother to John de Stanley, lieutenant of Ireland, who by the daughter and heir of Latham, of Lancaſhire, was anceſtor to the Stanleys, earls of

[u] See Cheſilhurſt, vol. ii. of this hiſtory, p. 7.

Derby,

Derby, of the lords Montegle, and of thoſe of Holte and Wever.* He died poſſeſſed of this ſeat in 1616, and his eldeſt ſon Thomas Stanley, eſq. of Hamptons, dying in 1668, was buried in this church near his father. He left iſſue an only daughter and heir Frances, married to Maximilian Dalyſon, eſq. of Halling, who in her right became entitled to this ſeat, to which he removed on her father's death.

This family of Dalyſon is of good account for its antiquity in this kingdom. William d'Alanzon, the firſt anceſtor recorded of it, is ſaid to have landed in this kingdom with William the Conqueror, whoſe direct deſcendant in the eighth generation, was of Laughton, in Lincolnſhire, and firſt wrote himſelf Dalyſon. His great grandſon, William Dalyſon, eſq. of Laughton, was ſheriff and eſcheator of Lincolnſhire, and died in 1546, leaving two ſons and three daughters; George Dalyſon, the eldeſt ſon, was of Laughton, whoſe grandſon, Sir Roger Dalyſon, was lieutenant-general of the ordnance, and was created a baronet in 1611.

William Dalyſon, the ſecond ſon, repreſented the county of Lincoln in parliament in 1554, and was afterwards one of the judges of the king's bench, in the time of queen Mary, whoſe coat of arms, *Gules, three creſcents, or, a canton ermine*, are ſtill remaining in a window in Grays-inn chapel, and in another window is a like coat belonging to Charles Dalyſon, anno 1660. He died in 1558, and was buried in Lincoln cathedral. He left four ſons, of whom William, the eldeſt, will be mentioned hereafter, and Thomas was of Greetwell, in Lincolnſhire, and was afterwards knighted. Lloyd in his memoirs ſays, Sir Thomas Dalyſon, of Lancaſhire, loſt his life for his loyalty at Nazeby, and 12,000l. in his eſtate, and that there were three colonels more of this name in the king's army, viz. Sir Charles Dalyſon, Sir Robert Dalyſon, and Sir William Dalyſon,

* See Viſitation county of Kent, anno 1619. Pedig. Stanley.

who

who ſpent 130,000l. therein, being men of great command in their country, and bringing the ſtrength thereof to the king's aſſiſtance.

William Dalyſon, the eldeſt ſon, on his marriage with Silveſter, daughter of Robert Dene, gent. of Halling, in this county, in 1573 ſettled in this county, and reſided at the biſhop's palace, in Halling, where he died in 1585, and was buried in Clerkenwell church. His widow afterwards married William Lambarde, gent. of Greenwich, our Kentiſh perambulator, and dying in 1587, was buried in Halling church, leaving iſſue by both her huſbands.

Maximilian Dalyſon, eſq. the direct deſcendant of William Dalyſon, by Silveſter his wife, reſided, in like manner as his anceſtors had done at Halling, but having married Frances, only daughter and heir of Thomas Stanley, gent. of Hamptons, in this pariſh, as has been before related, on the death of her father, he removed thither, where he died in 1671, and was buried in this church, as was Frances his wife, who ſurvived him, and died in 1684. They left two ſurviving ſons, Thomas, of whom hereafter; and Charles, who was of Chatham, gent.

Thomas Dalyſon, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, of Hamptons, was twice married; firſt, to Suſan, daughter of Sir Thomas Style, bart. of Watringbury; and ſecondly, to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Twiſden, bart. of Bradborne, by the latter of whom he had no iſſue. He died in 1636, leaving by his firſt wife a daughter Elizabeth, who married John Boys, eſq. of Hode-court, in this county, and Tho. Dalyſon, eſq. who was of Plaxtool, where he reſided during his father's life-time, and afterwards removed to Hamptons, where he died in 1741, and was buried in Plaxtool chapel, as were his ſeveral deſcendants.

He married firſt Jane, only daughter of Richard Etherington, gent. of Eſſex, by whom he left Mary, who died unmarried, and Jane, who married Sir Jeffery Amherſt,

Amherſt, of Riverhead, afterwards created lord Amherſt. His ſecond wife was Iſabella, ſecond daughter of Peter Burrell, eſq. of Beckenham, who ſurviving him, died in 1762. By her he had William, of whom further mention will be made hereafter. Frances Iſabella married to William Daniel Maſter, eſq. of Mereworth, and Thomas Daliſon, clerk, A. M. Wm. Daliſon, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, is the preſent poſſeſſor of Hamptons, but reſides at Plaxtool, and is as yet unmarried.

The family of Dalyſon, of Hamptons, has a right to quarter the arms of Stanley, and with them the coats of Hooton, Houghton, Groſvenor and Harrington; and with thoſe of Dalyſon, the coats of Elkinton, Greenfield, Dighton and Bleſby.

THE BOROUGH OF OXENHOATH in this pariſh, is within *the hundred and manor of Hoo*, near Rocheſter, at the court of which a borſholder is appointed for this borough yearly.

THE MANOR OF OXENHOATH, alias *Toxenhoath*, is held of the manor of Great Hoo, by the ſervice of the yearly payment of a pair of gilded ſpurs, but the payment of them has been forborne many years. It was in antient times part of the poſſeſſions of a branch of the family of Colepeper, or Culpeper, as they were called, and ſometimes wrote themſelves, in which it continued till it became part of the poſſeſſions of Sir John Colepeper, juſtice of common pleas, in the 7th year of king Henry IV. in the 10th year of which reign, he gave his manor of Weſt Peckham to the knights hoſpitallers, as has been mentioned before. He reſided at Oxenhoath, of which he died poſſeſſed in, or ſoon after, the 3d year of king Henry V. and was buried in this church with Katherine his wife, by whom he left Sir William Culpeper, of Oxenhoath, ſheriff of this county in the 5th year of king Henry VI. whoſe ſon, Sir John Colepeper, likewiſe reſided here. His ſon, Sir William Colepeper, was of Aylesford, and ſheriff

in

in the 5th year of king Henry VI. By his wife, daughter of Ferrers, of Groby, he had three ſons; Sir Richard Colepeper, of Oxenhoath, William, of Preſton-hall, in Aylesford; and Jeffry.

Sir Richard Colepeper was ſheriff in the 11th year of king Edward IV. and died poſſeſſed of Oxenhoath, in the 2d year of king Richard III. leaving by Iſabella, daughter and coheir of Otwell Worceley, of Stamworth, three daughters, his coheirs, Margaret, married to William Cotton, third ſon of Sir Thomas Cotton, of Landwade, in Cambridgeſhire; Joyce, to the lord Edmund Howard, younger ſon of Thomas, duke of Norfolk; and Elizabeth, to Henry Barham, of Teſton.[x] And on the diviſion of their inheritance, this eſtate was allotted to William Cotton, in right of his wife Margaret. He reſided here, bearing for his arms, *Sable, a chevron between three griffins heads eraſed, argent.*[y] He was ſucceeded by his ſon, Sir Thomas Cotton, who alienated this manor to John Chowne, gent. of Fairlawne, and his great grandſon, Sir George Chowne, of Fairlawne, intending to confine his poſſeſſions within Suſſex, paſſed away this manor to Nicholas Miller, eſq. of Horſnells Crouch, in Wrotham, ſheriff of this county in the 8th year of king Charles I. who bore for his arms, *Ermine, a feſs gules, between three griffins heads eraſed, azure.* He died in 1640, and was buried in Wrotham church, leaving by Jane his wife, daughter of John Polley, eſq. of Preſton, two ſurviving ſons, Nicholas of Oxenhoath, and Mathew of Buckland, in Surry, and ſeveral daughters

His eldeſt ſurviving ſon, Sir Nicholas Miller, reſided at Oxenhoath, which he greatly augmented and beautified. He died in 1658, leaving four ſons and four daughters ſurviving, of whom Humphry became his heir; and Nicholas, to whom his grandfather, Ni-

[x] MSS. pedigrees of Colepeper, Lee, Cotton, &c.
[y] Viſtn. co. Kent, anno 1619, pedigree of Cotton.

cholas

cholas Miller, bequeathed his family ſeat of Crouch, in Wrotham, and other eſtates. Humphry Miller, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded his father in this manor and ſeat, where he reſided, and in 1660, was created a baronet, and in 1666 was ſheriff of this county, and kept his ſhrievalty at Oxenhoath. He died in 1709, leaving a ſon and heir, Borlaſe, and a daughter, Elizabeth, who will be mentioned hereafter.

Sir Borlaſe Miller, bart. was of Oxenhoath, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1714, *ſ. p.* leaving his wife, Suſanna, daughter of Thomas Medley, eſq. of Suſſex, ſurviving. On which this eſtate came by ſurvivorſhip to Elizabeth his ſiſter, before-mentioned, then the wife of Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. of Rocheſter, who afterwards reſided at Oxenhoath, who ſerved the office of ſheriff in 1713, and bore for his arms, *Or, three goats heads eraſed, ſable.* He died in 1720, being buried with Elizabeth his wife in this church, and leaving three ſons, Philip, Leonard, and Humphry; the eldeſt of whom, Philip Bartholomew, eſq. poſſeſſed and reſided at Oxenhoath. He firſt married the only daughter and heir of Mr. John Knowe, gent. of Ford, in Wrotham; by whom he had two ſons, Leonard, and John-Knowe-Bartholomew, the latter of whom died before his brother, without iſſue. He married ſecondly Mary, younger daughter of Alexander Thomas, eſq. of Lamberhurſt, by whom he had a daughter Mary, married to Francis Geary, eſq.

Philip Bartholomew died in 1730, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Leonard Bartholomew, eſq. who was of Oxenhoath. He died without iſſue in 1757, and by will gave Oxenhoath, with his other eſtates in this county, to the ſecond ſon, then unborn, of Francis Geary, eſq. of Poleſdon, in Surry, afterwards admiral of the royal navy, and created a baronet on Auguſt 10, 1782, by Mary, his half ſiſter abovementioned, in tail male, with remainder to the admi-

ral's eldeſt ſon, in like tail, remainder to the family of Beaumont, in Yorkſhire.

His ſecond ſon before mentioned was afterwards born and chriſtened William, and his eldeſt brother having died unmarried, became his father's heir, and ſucceeded on his death in 1796, to the title of baronet, being the preſent Sir William Geary, bart. who reſides at Oxenhoath, of which he is the preſent poſſeſſor. He is M. P. for this county, and at preſent unmarried. The arms of Geary are, *Gules, two bars argent, on each three maſcles of the firſt, a canton ermine.*

CHARITIES.

DAME MARY CHOWNE gave by will in 1619, to be diſtributed to the poor of this pariſh on Michaelmas day yearly, the ſum of 40l. with which a houſe was bought, which is veſted in truſtees, and now of the annual produce of 40s.

THOMAS STANLEY, eſq. gave by deed in 1637, to an aged married pair for life, or an antient widow, a houſe and land, veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers, and now of the annual produce of 1l. 10s.

THE REV. SAMUEL COOKE gave by will in 1637, to ten poor perſons of this pariſh yearly, on Lady-day, a ſum of money, veſted in the miniſter of this pariſh, and now of the annual produce of 5l.

NICHOLAS JAMES and THOMAS DUNMOLL gave by their ſeveral wills in 1693, 1705, and 1708, the ſums of 20s. each, to be paid out of lands in this pariſh, and to be diſtributed to the poor on Chriſtmas day, which ſums are veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers, and now of the like annual produce.

MILDMAY, EARL OF WESTMORELAND, gave a field, containing two acres, to the inhabitants of this pariſh, for a ſporting place and for a more commodious way to the church.

WEST or LITTLE PECKHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling

The church, which is dedicated to St. Dunſtan, is a ſmall building, with a low pointed ſteeple.

King Edward I. in his 14th year, granted to the prior and convent of Ledis, in this county, the advowſon of the church of Parva Pecham, to hold in free, pure, and perpetual alms; and he granted that they ſhould

ſhould hold it appropriated to their own uſe, whenſoever they would, without any hindrance of him, his heirs and ſucceſſors.[z]

In the 21ſt of the above reign, a *quo warranto* was brought before the juſtices itinerant againſt the prior and convent, to enquire by what right they poſſeſſed this church, then valued at forty pounds per annum, and formerly in the king's gift; and on their pleading the above grant, the jury gave it for them.

In the reign of king Edward III. the valuation of this church was, forty acres of the endowment of it, twenty ſhillings hay; twenty ſhillings tithe of pannage and herbage; ten ſhillings tithe of geeſe, calves, pigs, and mills; with oblations and other ſmall tithes belonging to it.

Biſhop Thomas de Brinton, by his inſtrument in 1387, the 11th year of king Richard II. granted licence to the prior and convent of Ledes to appropriate this church, then vacant and of their own patronage, to their own uſes, ſaving a competent vicarage in it, the preſentation of which ſhould belong to them, which he ordained to conſiſt of all ſmall tithes, oblations, obventions, pannages, and all other things belonging to the altarage, except the tithe of hay itſelf of the pariſh whereſoever, excepting of twenty acres of meadow, then belonging to the earl of Glouceſter, in the weſtern part of the pariſh; the tithe of which twenty acres the vicar of the church for the time being, ſhould take and have for ever. And that the vicars themſelves ſhould have the hall, with the chambers adjoining to it, and the garden, together with four acres of land, with the tithe ariſing from them, and two acres of wood of the demeſne of the church, as they were bounded off; and alſo two ſhillings annual rent, which John, called le Kinge, of this pariſh, and his heirs, ſhould pay to the vicars for ever, for land which he held of the fee

[z] Rot. Cart. ejus an. N. 1. Reg. Roff. p. 514.

of this church, together with the tithes ariſing from it; and that the vicars ſhould take all tithes in the gardens of the whole pariſh, which were dug with the foot. But that the prior and convent ſhould, for their portion, ſuſtain all burthens, as well ordinary and extraordinary, happening to the church, ſaving the right, dignity and cuſtom of his church of Rocheſter, and of all others.

The advowſon and parſonage of Weſt Peckham continued with the priory of Leeds till the time of its diſſolution in the reign of king Henry VIII. when the ſame, together with all the lands and revenues of it, was ſurrendered into the king's hands, after which the king, by his dotation-charter, in his 33d year, ſettled this church of Peckham Parva, and the advowſon of the vicarage, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom they now remain.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. the parſonage of Little Peckham was ſurveyed in 1649; when it appeared that it conſiſted of a barn, yard, &c. and twenty-five acres and an half of glebe land, of the improved rent of ſixty pounds per annum; which premiſes were let anno 13 Charles I. to James, Elizabeth, and Duke Stonehouſe, for the term of their lives, or the longeſt liver of them, by the dean and chapter of Rocheſter, at the yearly rent of ſix pounds. In which leaſe the advowſon was excepted, and the leſſees covenanted to repair the premiſes, and the chancel of the pariſh church.[a]

The preſent leſſee of this parſonage, under the dean and chapter, is Sir William Geary, bart.

In the reign of queen Anne, the ſmall tithes of this vicarage amounted to about twelve pounds per annum. It had then an augmentation of fourteen pounds per annum which had been given to it by the dean and

[a] Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-library, vol. xiv.

chapter

chapter of Rocheſter about the year 1690. There was likewiſe a ſmall augmentation to it from John Warner, biſhop of Rocheſter, of about ten pounds per annum, but not fixed to it.

The vicarage is now a diſcharged living, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-five pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 14s. 7d.

In 1732 it was augmented by the governors of queen Anne's bounty, and by the benefactions of one hundred pounds per annum, from the truſtees of Sir William Langhorne, bart. being part of his legacy towards the augmentation of ſmall livings, and of 100l. 17s. 6d. by Henry Burville, vicar of this pariſh, with which, and fifty pounds, added by George Richards, the ſucceeding vicar, a farm of fifteen pounds a year was purchaſed in this neighbourhood. The vicarage, which is a handſome faſhed brick houſe, ſituated near the church, was built by the bounty of Philip Bartholomew, eſq. of Oxenhoath.

CHURCH OF WEST PECKHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS,
Prior and convent of Leeds	*William Allen*, reſig. 1372.[b]
	William Huberd, 1372.[b]
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter...	*Edward Drayner*, A. B. in 1627, obt. 1630.[c]
	Samuel Cooke, A. B. in 1630, obt. Aug. 26, 1638.[d]
	Bartholomew May, obt. June 21, 1709.[e]
	Henry Burvill, A. M. ob. April 20, 1749.[f]
	George Richards, A. M. 1749, obt. Feb. 1783.

[b] Willis's Buckingham, p. 354. William Alleyn exchanged this vicarage with William Huberd, for that of Weſtbury, in Buckinghamſhire.

[c] MSS. Twyſden.

[d] He was alſo rector of Mereworth, where he lies buried.

[e] He lies buried in this church.

[f] He was a good benefactor to this vicarage, and lies buried in this church.

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Dean and chapter of Rocheſter. ...	*Peter Wade*, A. M. July 1783, obt. Sept. 1783.[g]
	Arnold Carter, A. M. 1783, reſigned 1795.[h]
	Richard Bathurſt, A. M. 1795, the preſent vicar.[i]

[g] He had been before vicar of Boughton Monchelſea, which he reſigned, and in 1783 a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding Cowling rectory with this vicarage.

[h] He was minor canon of Rocheſter. He reſigned this vicarage for that of St. Margaret's, Rocheſter.

[i] He was minor canon of Rocheſter. He was before vicar of Allhallows, Hoo, which he reſigned for this vicarage.

MEREWORTH.

EASTWARD from Weſt, or Little Peckham, lies Mereworth, uſually called *Merrud*. In Domeſday it is written *Marourde*, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, MÆRUURTHA, and MERANWYRTHE.

THE PARISH of Mereworth is within the diſtrict of the Weald, being ſituated ſouthward of the quarry hills. It is exceedingly pleaſant, as well from its natural ſituation, as from the buildings, avenues, and other ornamental improvements made throughout it by the late earl of Weſtmoreland, nor do thoſe made at Yokes by the late Mr. Maſter contribute a little to the continued beauty of this ſcene. The turnpike road croſſes this pariſh through the vale from Maidſtone, towards Hadlow and Tunbridge, on each ſide of which is a fine avenue of oaks, with a low neatly cut quick hedge along the whole of it, which leaves an uninterrupted view over the houſe, park, and grounds of lord le Deſpencer, the church with its fine built ſpire, and the ſeat of Yokes, and beyond it an extenſive country, along the valley to Tunbridge, making altogether a moſt beautiful and luxuriant proſpect.

Mereworth houſe is ſituated in the park, which riſes finely wooded behind it, at a ſmall diſtance from the high

high road, having a fine sheet of water in the front of it, being formed from a part of a stream which rises at a small distance above Yokes, and dividing itself into two branches, one of them runs in front of Mereworth house as above-mentioned, and from thence through Watringbury, towards the Medway at Bow-bridge; the other branch runs more southward to East Peckham, and thence into the Medway at a small distance above Twiford bridge.

Mereworth-house was built after a plan of Palladio, designed for a noble Vicentine gentleman, Paolo Almerico, an ecclesiastic and referendary to two popes, who built it in his own country about a quarter of a mile distance from the city of Venice, in a situation pleasant and delightful, and nearly like this; being watered in front with a river, and in the back encompassed with the most pleasant risings, which form a kind of theatre, and abound with large and stately groves of oak and other trees; from the top of these risings there are most beautiful views, some of which are limited, and others extend so as to be terminated only by the horizon. Mereworth-house is built in a moat, and has four fronts, having each a portico, but the two side ones are filled up; under the floor of the hall and best apartments, are rooms and conveniences for the servants. The hall, which is in the middle, forms a cupola, and receives its light from above, and is formed with a double case, between which the smoke is conveyed through the chimnies to the center of it at top. The wings are at a small distance from the house, and are elegantly designed. In the front of the house is an avenue, cut through the woods, three miles in length towards Wrotham-heath, and finished with incredible expence and labour by lord Westmoreland, for a communication with the London road there: throughout the whole, art and nature are so happily blended together, as to render it a most delightful situation.

In the weſtern part of this pariſh, on the high road is the village, where at Mereworth croſs it turns ſhort off to the ſouthward towards Hadlow and Tunbridge, at a ſmall diſtance further weſtward is the church and parſonage, the former is a conſpicuous ornament to all the neighbouring country throughout the valley; hence the ground riſes to Yokes, which is moſt pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of a hill, commanding a moſt delightful and extenſive proſpect over the Weald, and into Surry and Suſſex.

Towards the north this pariſh riſes up to the ridge of hills, called the Quarry-hills, (and there are now in them, though few in number, ſeveral of the *Martin Cats*, the ſame as thoſe at Hudſon's Bay) over which is the extenſive tract of wood-land, called the Herſt woods, in which ſo late as queen Elizabeth's reign, there were many wild ſwine, with which the whole Weald formerly abounded, by reaſon of the plenty of pannage from the acorns throughout it.[k]

The ſoil of this pariſh is very fertile, being the quarry ſtone thinly covered with a loam, throughout the northern part of it; but in the ſouthern or lower parts, as well as in Eaſt Peckham adjoining, it is a fertile clay, being moſtly paſture and exceeding rich grazing land, and the largeſt oxen perhaps at any place in this part of England are bred and fatted on them, the weight of ſome of them having been, as I have been informed, near three hundred ſtone.

The manors of Mereworth and Swanton, with others in this neighbourhood, were antiently bound to contribute towards the repair of the fifth pier of Rocheſter bridge.[l]

THIS PLACE, at the time of taking the ſurvey of Domeſday, was part of the poſſeſſions of Hamo Vicecomes, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in that book.

In Littlefield hundred. Hamo holds Marourde. Norman held it of king Edward, and then, and now, it was

[k] MSS. Twyſden. [l] Lamb. Peramb. p. 422.

and

and is taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is nine carucates. In demeſne there are two, and twenty-eight villeins, with fifteen borderers, having ten carucates. There is a church and ten ſervants, and two mills of ten ſhillings, and two fiſheries of two ſhillings. There are twenty acres of meadow, and as much wood as is ſufficient for the pannage of ſixty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth twelve pounds, and afterwards ten pounds, now nineteen pounds.

This Hamo Vicecomes before-mentioned was Hamo de Crevequer, who was appointed Vicecomes, or ſheriff of Kent, ſoon after his coming over hither with the Conqueror, which office he held till his death in the reign of king Henry I.

In the reign of king Henry II. Mereworth was in the poſſeſſion of a family, which took their ſurname from it, and held it as two knights fees, of the earls of Clare, as of their honour of Clare.

Roger, ſon of Euſtace de Mereworth, poſſeſſed it in the above reign, and then brought a *quare impedit* againſt the prior of Leeds, for the advowſon of the church of Mereworth.[m]

William de Mereworth is recorded among thoſe Kentiſh knights, who aſſiſted king Richard at the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine, upon which account it is probable *the croſs-croſlets* were added to the paternal arms of this family.

Roger de Mereworth, in the 18th year of king Edward I. obtained the grant of a fair at his manor of Mereworth, to be held there on the feaſt day of St. Laurence, and likewiſe for free-warren in the ſame, and in Eldehaye, &c.

John de Mereworth held this manor in the beginning of the reign of king Edward II. and in the 15th and 16th years of the next reign of king Edward III. he was ſheriff, and reſided at Mereworth-caſtle. His

[m] Philipott, p. 236. Reg. Roff. p. 496.

ſon,

ſon, of the ſame name, died in the 44th year of it, without iſſue, on which John de Malmains, of Malmains, in Pluckley, was found to be his heir; and he, in the 46th year of the ſame reign, alienated his intereſt in it to Nicholas, ſon of Sir John de Brembre, who bore for his arms, *Argent, three annulets ſable, on a canton of the ſecond, a mullet of the firſt.*

Nicholas de Brembre was a citizen and grocer of London, and was lord mayor in the 1ſt year of king Richard II. in the 5th year of which reign he was knighted for his good ſervices againſt that rebel Wat Tyler, in the 6th parliament of it, he repreſented the city of London in it; but at length becoming obnoxious to the prevailing party of that time, he was attainted of high treaſon in the 10th year of that reign, and was afterwards beheaded,[n] and his body buried in the Grey Friars church, now Chriſt church, in London. His eſtate being thus forfeited to the crown, king Richard, in his 13th year, granted this manor to John Hermenſtorpe, who ſhortly afterwards paſſed it away to Richard Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel, lord treaſurer and admiral of England, whoſe ſon, Thomas Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel, dying without iſſue in the 4th year of king Henry V. anno 1415, his four ſiſters became his coheirs, and on the diviſion of their inheritance, the manor of Mereworth became the property of Joane, lady Abergavenny, the ſecond ſiſter, who had married William Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny, and ſhe died poſſeſſed of it in the 13th year of king Henry VI.[o] After which it appears to have been veſted in Elizabeth, daughter and ſole heir of her ſon, Richard Beauchamp, earl of Worceſter, and lord Abergavenny, who afterwards married Edward Nevill, fourth ſon of Ralph, earl of Weſtmoreland, who had poſſeſſion granted of the lands of his wife's inheritance,

[n] Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 114, 115.
[o] Philipott, p. 236. Rot. Eſch. an. 14 Henry VI.

and

and was afterwards, in the 29th year of Henry VI. ſummoned to parliament by the title of lord Bergavenny. He ſurvived her, and died in the 16th year of king Edward IV. being then poſſeſſed, as tenant by the curteſy of England, of the inheritance of Elizabeth his firſt wife before-mentioned, of the manor of Mereworth.

From him it deſcended to his great grandſon, Henry Nevill, lord Abergavenny, who died in the 29th year of queen Elizabeth,[p] when by inquiſition he was found to die poſſeſſed, among other premiſes, of this manor with the advowſon of the church of Mereworth, and the manor and farm of Oldhaie, alias Holehaie, in this pariſh, and that Mary, his daughter, was his ſole heir, who had been married in the 17th year of that reign, to Sir Thomas Fane.

The family of Fane,[q] alias Vane, are of antient Welſh extraction, and for many generations wrote themſelves ſolely Vane. They were firſt ſeated in this county in the reign of king Henry VI. when Henry Vane became poſſeſſed of Hilden, in Tunbridge, and reſided there. He left three ſons, the eldeſt of whom, John, was of Tunbridge; Thomas left a ſon Humphry; and Henry, the third ſon, was father of Sir Ralph Vane, who was attainted in the 4th year of king Edward VI.

John Vane, alias Fane, eſq. of Tunbridge, the eldeſt ſon, had four ſons; the eldeſt of whom Henry, was of Hadlow, but died *ſ. p.* Richard was anceſtor of the Fanes, of Badſell, in Tudeley, the earls of Weſtmoreland, the viſcounts Fane of Ireland, and the Fanes of Mereworth and Burſton. Thomas, was of London, and John, the fourth ſon, was of Had-

[p] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. Philipott, p. 236. See more of the Nevills, under Birling, p. 477.

[q] Coll. Peer. vol. iii. p. 173. Memorials in Mereworth, Hunton, and Tudely churches. MSS. pedigree of Fane.

low,

low, and was anceſtor of the two Sir Henry Vanes, whoſe deſcendant is the preſent earl of Darlington, as were the late viſcounts Vane, and the Fanes, late of Winchelſea, in Suſſex.

John Fane, eſq. the father, dying in 1488, anno 4 king Henry VII. was buried in Tunbridge church, whoſe ſon Richard, heir to his elder brother Henry, married Agnes, daughter and heir of Thomas Stidolfe, eſq. of Badſell, where he afterwards reſided, as did his ſon George Fane, and grandſon of the ſame name, the latter of whom was ſheriff, anno 4 and 5 of Philip and Mary, and died in 1571, leaving two ſons of the name of Thomas, the eldeſt of whom will be mentioned hereafter, and the youngeſt was ſeated at Burſton, in Hunton, where a further account may be ſeen of him.

Thomas Fane, the eldeſt ſon and heir, having engaged in the rebellion raiſed by Sir Thomas Wyatt, in the firſt year of queen Mary, was attainted, and a warrant iſſued for his execution, but the queen having compaſſion on his youth, pardoned him, and he was ſoon afterwards reſtored to his liberty and eſtate. He was twice married, firſt to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgbury, by whom he had no iſſue; and ſecondly, to lady Mary, ſole daughter and heir of Henry Nevill, lord Abergavenny, by his wife Frances, daughter to Thomas Manners, earl of Rutland, and in her right poſſeſſed this manor of Mereworth, &c. as has been already mentioned.

Sir Thomas Fane, for he had been knighted the year before his laſt marriage, in the queen's preſence, by the earl of Leiceſter, after this reſided at times, both at Mereworth caſtle and at Badſell, of which latter place he wrote himſelf. He died in the 31ſt year of queen Elizabeth, and was buried at Tudely, whence his body was afterwards removed to Mereworth church. He left by the lady Mary, his wife, who ſurvived him, Francis, his heir, and George,

who

who ſucceeded to this manor and eſtate at Mereworth, after his mother's death, and who was made heir to his uncle, Sir Thomas Fane, of Burſton.

Lady Mary Fane, on the death of her father, Henry, lord Abergavenny, had challenged the title of baroneſs of Bergavenny, againſt Edward Nevill, ſon of Sir Edward Nevill, a younger brother of George, lord Bergavenny, father of Henry, lord Bergavenny, before-mentioned, on which Sir Edward Nevill, the caſtle of Bergavenny had been ſettled both by teſtament and act of parliament.

This claim was not determined until after Sir Thomas Fane's death, in the firſt year of king James I. when after great argument uſed on both ſides, the title of baron of Bergavenny, was both by judgment of the houſe of peers, and order of the lords commiſſioners for the office of earl marſhal, decreed for the heir male, and to give ſome ſatisfaction to the heir female, the king, by his letters patent dated as before-mentioned, granted and reſtored to her and her heirs, the dignity of baroneſs le Deſpencer,[r] with the antient ſeat, place, and precedency of her anceſtors.

The lady Mary, baroneſs le Deſpencer, ſurvived her huſband many years, and died at Mereworth-caſtle, in 1626, and was buried in Mereworth church, leaving her two ſons, Francis and George, ſurviving. The eldeſt of whom Francis, in 1623, was created baron Burgherſh, and earl of Weſtmoreland. He died in 1628, having had by Mary his wife, daughter and ſole heir of Sir Anthony Mildmay, of Apethorp, in Northamptonſhire, ſeveral ſons and daughters, of the former, Mildmay was the eldeſt, who ſucceeded him in titles; Francis was afterwards knighted; and Henry was anceſtor to the viſcounts Fane.

Mildmay, the eldeſt ſon, earl of Weſtmoreland, dying in 1665, was buried at Apethorp. He left by his firſt wife Grace, daughter of Sir William Thornhurſt,

[r] See Harl. MSS. No. 1877-55. No. 6778-6, 7, 8, 9.

hurſt, one ſon Charles, who ſucceeded him in honors and eſtate, and by his ſecond wife Mary, ſecond daughter and coheir of Horace, lord Vere, of Tilbury, widow of Sir Roger Townſend, bart. of Rainham, in Norfolk, one ſon, Vere Fane.

Charles, earl of Weſtmoreland, was twice married, but dying without iſſue in 1691, was ſucceeded by his half-brother Sir Vere Fane, K.B. above-mentioned, who was M. P. for this county in 1678, and in 1692 joint lord-lieutenant with Henry, lord viſcount Sidney. He died next year, leaving by Rachael his wife, only daughter and heir of John Bunce, eſq. alderman of London, ſeveral ſons and daughters, of the former, Vere, ſucceeded him in titles and eſtate, and died unmarried in 1699. Thomas, the ſecond ſon, ſucceeded his brother as earl of Weſtmoreland, and died without iſſue; and John, the third ſon, ſucceeded his brother as earl of Weſtmoreland, and Mildmay, was the fourth ſon, both of whom will be further mentioned.

Of the daughters, Mary married Sir Francis Daſhwood, bart. of London, father of the late lord le Deſpencer; Catherine married William Paul, eſq. of Berkſhire, whoſe only daughter and heir, Catherine, married Sir William Stapleton, bart. father of Sir Thomas Stapleton, bart. lately deceaſed, and Suſan died unmarried.

But to return to George Fane, the ſecond ſon of the lady Mary, baroneſs le Deſpencer, by her huſband, Sir Thomas Fane. He was knighted at the coronation of king James I. in the 18th year of which reign he was choſen M. P. for this county, and on his mother's death in 1626, he ſucceeded to the manor of Mereworth, with the caſtle, advowſon, and other eſtates in this pariſh; and on the death of Sir Thomas Fane, of Burſton, his uncle, in 1606, ſucceeded by his will to his ſeat at Burſton, and the reſt of his eſtates.

Sir

Sir George Fane reſided afterwards at Burſton, where he died in 1640, being ſucceeded in this manor and eſtate by his eldeſt ſon, Thomas Fane, eſq. of Burſton, who was a colonel in the army. He died unmarried at Burſton in 1692, and was buried near his father in Hunton church, leaving the manor and caſtle of Mereworth, with the advowſon of this church, his ſeat at Burſton, and all other his eſtates in this county, to Mildmay Fane, the youngeſt ſon of Vere, earl of Weſtmoreland, by Rachael, his wife, daughter of John Bunce, eſq.

Mildmay Fane, eſq. reſided at Mereworth-caſtle, and in 1715 was choſen M. P. for this county. He died unmarried that year, and was ſucceeded in this manor and caſtle, as well as in his other eſtates, by Thomas, earl of Weſtmoreland, his eldeſt ſurviving brother, who was chief juſtice in eyre, ſouth of Trent, and of the privy council to king George I. This earl intending to reſide at Apethorp, in Northamptonſhire, procured an act in the 5th year of that reign, to ſell this manor, as well as all the reſt of his Kentiſh eſtates, but changing his mind, no ſale was made of any of them, and he afterwards reſided at Mereworth caſtle, where he died *ſ. p.* in 1736, and was buried at Apethorp, ſo that his honours and eſtates deſcended to John, his younger and only ſurviving brother, who became the 7th earl of Weſtmoreland, and following a military life in his early youth, at length arrived at the rank of lieutenant general. On the death of his younger brother, Mildmay Fane, he was in 1715 choſen in his room M. P. for this county; and in 1733 was created a peer of Ireland, by the title of baron of Catherlough, and in 1737 he was appointed lord-lieutenant of Northamptonſhire. He retired to Mereworth caſtle ſoon after the death of earl Thomas, which ſeat he rebuilt, as well as the church of Mereworth, in an elegant manner, and continued adding to the improvements and grandeur of this place till

the

the time of his death, inſomuch, that it may now be juſtly eſteemed one of the greateſt ornaments of this county.

The earl was high ſteward, and afterwards chancellor of the univerſity of Oxford, in which laſt high and honorable office he was inſtalled there, on July 3, 1759, with the greateſt ſolemnity, and with a magnificence and ſplendor unknown at any former inſtallation. He married Mary, only daughter and heir of the lord Henry Cavendiſh, but dying in 1762, *ſ. p.* he by his will deviſed this manor and ſeat, with the reſt of his eſtates in this county, to his nephew Sir Francis Daſhwood, bart. ſon of Sir Francis Daſhwood, bart. of Weſt Peckham, by his ſiſter the lady Mary, eldeſt daughter of Vere, earl of Weſtmoreland, and to the heirs of his body, with remainder to Sir Thomas Stapleton, bart. his great nephew, viz. ſon of Sir William Stapleton, bart. by Catherine, daughter and heir of William Paul, of Bromwich, in Oxfordſhire, by his ſiſter Catherine, younger daughter of the ſaid Vere, earl of Weſtmoreland.

On the death of John, earl of Weſtmoreland, without iſſue, his Iriſh peerage became extinct, but the barony of le Deſpencer being a barony in fee to heirs general, was confirmed to Sir Francis Daſhwood, bart. his ſiſter's ſon; and the titles of baron Burgherſh and earl of Weſtmoreland went to Thomas Fane, of Briſtol, merchant, the next heir male deſcendant of Sir Francis Fane, ſecond ſurviving ſon of Francis, firſt earl of Weſtmoreland. The earls of Weſtmoreland bore for their arms, *Azure, three right hand gauntlets with their backs affrontee, or.* And for their creſt, *Out of a ducal coronet or, a bull's head argent, pyed ſable, armed or, and charged on the neck with a roſe gules, barbed and ſeeded proper*; being the antient creſt of Nevill.

Sir Francis Daſhwood, bart. was deſcended from Samuel Daſhwood, eſq. of Rowney, near Taunton, who

who by his firſt wife had John, anceſtor of the Daſhwoods, of Eſſex and Suffolk; Francis, of whom hereafter; Richard and William, of Cheſhunt, in Hertfordſhire, who fined for alderman of London. By his ſecond wife he had George, anceſtor to the Daſhwoods, of Oxford, baronets.

Francis Daſhwood, the ſecond ſon, was a Turkey merchant, and an alderman of London, who bore for his arms, *Argent, on a feſs double cotized gules, three griffins heads eraſed, or*, granted to him in 1662, by Byſhe, clarencieux. He died in 1683, leaving ſeveral children, the eldeſt of whom Samuel was knighted, and was lord-mayor of London in 1702, and was anceſtor of the Daſhwoods, of Well, in Lincolnſhire; Francis the youngeſt was knighted and created a baronet in 1707, whoſe ſecond wife was the lady Mary, eldeſt ſiſter of John, earl of Weſtmoreland, who died in 1710, and lies buried in Weſt Wycomb church, in Buckinghamſhire, where an elegant monument is erected to her memory; by whom he had an only ſon, Francis, and a daughter, Rachael, married in 1738 to Sir Robert Auſten, bart. of Bexley, in this county. Sir Francis Daſhwood, bart. the ſon, was of Weſt Wycomb, and on the deceaſe of John, earl of Weſtmoreland, ſucceeded by his will to this manor and houſe of Mereworth, as well as the reſt of his eſtates in this county, to whom the king on April 19, 1763, confirmed to him, in right of the lady Mary, his mother, the premier barony of Le Deſpencer, the ſame being a barony in fee deſcendible to the heirs general.

He married the daughter of Henry Gould, eſq. of Iver, in Buckinghamſhire, by whom he had no iſſue, and died in 1760, being a privy-counſellor and lord-lieutenant of Buckinghamſhire, upon which this manor and ſeat, with the reſt of his eſtates in this county, went, by the will of John, earl of Weſtmoreland, as mentioned before, to Sir Thomas Stapleton, bart. of Grays, in Oxfordſhire, (ſon of Sir Thomas Stapleton, the earl's

great nephew who had deceaſed in 1781) who on the death of Rachael, ſiſter of the late lord le Deſpencer, widow of Sir Robert Auſten, bart. before mentioned, in 1788, *ſ. p.* ſucceeded to the title likewiſe of lord le Deſpencer, and he is the preſent proprietor of this elegant ſeat, now called Mereworth, or more commonly Merrud houſe, the manor and the advowſon of this church.

He married Elizabeth, ſecond daughter of S. Eliot, eſq. of Antigua, by whom he has a ſon and daughter, He bears for his arms, *Argent, a lion rampant gules*, for Stapleton, quartered with the arms of Fane; and for his ſupporters, thoſe of the earls of Weſtmoreland, *the dexter a griffin, the ſiniſter a bull, both collared and chained*; creſt, *a Saracen's head.*

YOKES-PLACE, formerly called *Jotes-place*, is a ſeat in this pariſh, the ſcite of which, in the reign of king Henry III. was in the poſſeſſion of Fulco de Sharſtede, who then held it as the third part of a knight's fee, of the earl of Glouceſter,[a] and his deſcendant, Simon de Sharſted died poſſeſſed of it in the 25th year of king Edward I. After which it became the property of the family of Leyborne; and in the reign of king Edward III. it was come into the poſſeſſion of William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, in right of his wife, Juliana de Leyborne, the heireſs of that family, and he, in the 20th year of that reign paid aid for it. His wife ſurvived him, and again poſſeſſed this eſtate in her own right, and died poſſeſſed of it in the 41ſt year of that reign, without iſſue.

On her death, this eſtate, among the reſt of her poſſeſſions, eſcheated to the crown for want of heirs. Soon after which, it ſeems to have come into the poſſeſſion of a family, who implanted their name on it, and were written in ſeveral old dateleſs deeds, *Jeotes*,

[a] Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

and

and by contraction were called *Jotes*. But this name was extinct here before the end of the reign of king Richard II. when it appears to have been in the poſſeſſion of Richard Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, from whom it deſcended in like manner, as Mereworth manor, to Joane his daughter, coheir to Thomas, earl of Arundel, her brother, who married William Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny, and their ſon, Richard, earl of Worceſter, and lord Abergavenny, leaving an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, ſhe carried Jotes-place in marriage to Edward Nevill, fourth ſon of Ralph, earl of Weſtmoreland, who was ſummoned to parliament as lord Bergavenny, and died in the 16th year of king Edward IV. being then poſſeſſed, as tenant by the curteſy of England, in right of Elizabeth his wife, of this eſtate, as well as of Mereworth manor. His ſon Sir George Nevill, lord Bergavenny, died poſſeſſed of it in the 7th year of king Henry VII. anno 1491, leaving ſeveral ſons and daughters, of whom George, the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him as lord Abergavenny, in this eſtate, and in the manor of Mereworth; William was the ſecond ſon; Edward was the third, whoſe deſcendants ſucceeded in proceſs of time to the barony of Abergavenny, and Sir Thomas Nevill was the fourth ſon, to whom his father bequeathed Jotes-place, with the eſtate belonging to it.[t] He was of the privy-council to king Henry VIII. and ſecretary of ſtate, and dying in 1542, was buried in Mereworth church. His only daughter and heir, Margaret, married Sir Robert Southwell, maſter of the rolls, &c. who in her right became poſſeſſed of Jotes-place, where he reſided.[u] But in the 35th year of king Henry VIII. anno 1543, he alienated it, with other eſtates in this pariſh and Weſt Peckham, to Sir Edward Walſingham, of Scadbury, in this county, in whoſe deſcendants

[t] Philipott, p. 237. Coll. Peer. vol. vi. p. 502.
[u] See more of this family under Badleſmere.

it continued till the latter end of the reign of king Charles I. when Sir Thomas Walſingham, of Scadbury, conveyed Yokes-place, as it came now to be called, with the other eſtates before-mentioned, to his ſon-in-law, Mr. James Maſter, ſon of Mr. Nathaniel Maſter, merchant, of London, whoſe widow he had married, being the ſecond ſon of James Maſter, eſq. of Eaſt Langdon. Mr. James Maſter reſided here, where he died in 1689, and was buried in Mereworth church. He left three ſons and two daughters, James his heir; Streynſham, of Holton, in Oxfordſhire, and Richard. The daughters were, Frances, who died without iſſue, and Martha, who married Lionel Daniel, eſq. of Surry, by whom ſhe had William, his heir, and a daughter Elizabeth, married to George, late lord viſcount Torrington.

James Maſter, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, reſided at Yokes-place, and was ſheriff in 1725. He died in 1728 unmarried, and gave by his will this ſeat, with the reſt of his eſtates, to his youngeſt brother, Richard Maſter, who likewiſe reſided at Yokes, where he died unmarried in 1767, and by his will deviſed it, with all his other poſſeſſions, to his nephew, William Daniel, eſq. of Surry, ſon of his ſiſter Martha, enjoining him to take the arms and ſurname of Maſter; accordingly he bore for his arms, *Quarterly*, firſt and fourth, *Maſter; azure, a feſs crenelle between three griffins heads eraſed or*; ſecond and third, *Daniel, argent, a pale fuſilly ſable.*

William Daniel Maſter, eſq. reſided at Yokes-place, where he kept his ſhrievalty in the year 1771, having almoſt rebuilt this ſeat, and laid out the adjoining grounds in a modern and elegant taſte. He married Frances-Iſabella, daughter of Thomas Dalyſon, eſq. of Weſt Peckham. He died *ſ. p.* in 1792, and left Mrs. Maſter ſtill ſurviving him.

SWANTON-COURT is a manor in this pariſh, the manſion of which, ſituated about half a mile weſtward from

from Yokes-place, is now only a mean cottage. In the reign of king Henry III. Richard de Swanton held it, as half a knight's fee, of John de Belleacre, as he did of the earl of Glouceſter.* In the 10th year of king Edward III. it was become the property of Elizabeth, ſole daughter and heir of Wm. de Burgh, earl of Ulſter, who by her huſband Lionel, duke of Clarence, left an only daughter, Philippa, whoſe huſband, Edward Mortimer, earl of March, had poſſeſſion granted to him of this manor, among other lands of her inheritance.

Soon after which, this manor came into the poſſeſſion of that branch of the family of Colepeper, ſeated at Oxenhoath, in the adjoining pariſh of Weſt Peckham; in which it remained till Sir John Colepeper, one of the juſtices of the common pleas, gave it, with other lands in this neighbourhood, in the 10th year of king Henry IV. anno 1408, to the knights hoſpitallers of St. John, of Jeruſalem, who founded a preceptory on that part of theſe lands, which lay in Weſt Peckham.

This manor continued part of their poſſeſſions till the general diſſolution of their order in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when it was ſuppreſſed by an act then eſpecially paſſed for that purpoſe; and all the lands and revenues of it were given by it to the king and his heirs for ever. The next year the king granted the manor of Swanton to Sir Robert Southwell, who in the 35th year of that reign, alienated it to Sir Edmund Walſingham, in whoſe deſcendants it continued till the latter end of king Charles I.'s reign, when Sir Thomas Walſingham alienated it, with Yokes-place and other eſtates in this neighbourhood, to his ſon-in-law, Mr. James Maſter; ſince which it has deſcended, in like manner as Yokes, to William Daniel Maſter, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of it *ſ. p.* in 1792, and by his will de-

* Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

viſed it to George Bing, lord viſcount Torrington, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

Fowkes is a manor in this pariſh, formerly eſteemed as an appendage to the manor of Watringbury, under which a further account of it may be ſeen. It belonged to the abbey of St. Mary Grace, near the Tower, London, and after the diſſolution in the reign of king Henry VIII. paſſed through ſeveral owners till the reign of king James I. when it was alienated to Oliver Style, eſq. in whoſe deſcendants it has continued till this time, the preſent inheritance of it being veſted in Sir Charles Style, bart. of Watringbury.

Barons-place is a capital meſſuage in Mereworth, which, with the eſtate belonging to it, was part of the poſſeſſions of Sir Nicholas Pelham, of Cattsfield-place, in Suſſex, who alienated it to Chriſtopher Vane, lord Barnard; after which it deſcended in like manner as Shipborne and Fairlawne, to William, viſcount Vane, who dying in 1789, *ſ. p.* deviſed it by his will to David Papillon, eſq. of Acriſe, the preſent owner of it.

The family of Brewer reſided in this pariſh for many generations, before they removed in the reign of king Henry VI. to Smith's hall, in Weſt Farleigh; their ſeat here, being called from them, *Brewer's-place.*

CHARITIES.

The baroness, wife of Francis, lord Deſpencer, gave by will certain land, the yearly produce of it to be applied towards the purchaſing of twenty gowns for twenty poor families yearly, veſted in the preſent lord le Deſpencer, and now of the annual produce of 20l.

A person unknown gave the ſum of 10s. per annum for the uſe of the poor, veſted in Sir William Twyſden, bart. and now of that annual produce.

A person unknown gave the like yearly ſum for the ſame purpoſe, veſted in Mr. Richard Sex.

A person unknown gave certain wood land for the ſame uſe, veſted in the preſent lord le Deſpencer, and now of the annual produce of 15s.

A person unknown gave certain land for the like uſe, veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers, and of the annual produce of 3l. 10s.

MEREWORTH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church was dedicated to St. Laurence. It was an antient building, and formerly ſtood where the weſt wing of Mereworth-houſe, made uſe of for the ſtables, now ſtands. It was pulled down by John, late earl of Weſtmoreland, when he rebuilt that houſe, and in lieu of it he erected, about half a mile weſtward from the old one, in the center of the village, the preſent church, a moſt elegant building, with a beautiful ſpire ſteeple, and a handſome portico in the front of it, with pillars of the Corinthian order. The whole of it is compoſed of different ſorts of ſtone; and the eaſt window is handſomely glazed with painted glaſs, collected by him for this purpoſe.

In the reign of king Henry II. the advowſon of this church was the property of Roger de Mereworth, between whom and the prior and convent of Ledes, in this county, there had been much diſpute, concerning the patronage of it: at length both parties ſubmitted their intereſt to Gilbert, biſhop of Rocheſter, who decreed, that the advowſon of it ſhould remain to Roger de Mereworth; and he further granted, with his conſent, and that of Martin then parſon of it, to the prior and convent, the ſum of forty ſhillings, in the name of a perpetual benefice, and not in the name of a penſion, in perpetual alms, to be received yearly for ever, from the parſon of it.*

The prior and the convent of Ledes afterwards, anno 12 Henry VII. releaſed to Hugh Walker, rector of this church, their right and claim to this penſion, and all their right and claim in the rectory, by reaſon of it, or by any other means whatſoever.

In the reign of king Henry VI. the rector and pariſhioners of this church petitioned the biſhop of Ro-

* See the confirmations of it in Reg. Roff. p. 211, 217.

cheſter, to change the day of the feaſt of the dedication of it, which being ſolemnized yearly on the 4th day of June, and the moveable feaſts of Pentecoſt, viz. of the ſacred *Trinity*, or *Corpus Chriſti*, very often happening on it; the divine ſervice uſed on the feaſts of dedications could not in ſome years be celebrated, but was of neceſſity deferred to another day, that theſe ſolemnities of religion and of the fair might not happen together. Upon which the biſhop, in 1439, transferred the feaſt to the Monday next after the exaltation of the Holy Croſs, enjoining all and ſingular the rectors, and their curates, as well as the pariſhioners from time to time to obſerve it accordingly as ſuch. And to encourage the pariſhioners and others to reſort to it on that day, he granted to ſuch as did, forty days remiſſion of their ſins.

Soon after the above-mentioned diſpute between Roger de Mereworth and the prior and convent of Ledes, the church of Mereworth appears to have been given to the priory of Black Canons, at Tunbridge.[y] And it remained with the above-mentioned priory till its diſſolution in the 16th year of king Henry VIII. a bull having been obtained from the pope, with the king's leave, for that purpoſe. After which the king, in his 17th year, granted that priory, with others then ſuppreſſed for the like purpoſe, together with all their manors, lands, and poſſeſſions, to cardinal Wolſey, for the better endowment of his college, called Cardinal college, in Oxford. But four years afterwards, the cardinal being caſt in a *præmunire*, all the eſtates of that college, which for want of time had not been firmly ſettled on it, became forfeited to the crown.[z] After which, the king granted the patronage of the church of Mereworth, to Sir George Nevill, lord Abergavenny, whoſe deſcendant Henry, lord Abergavenny,

[y] See the pope's confirmation of it in Reg. Roff. p. 668.
[z] See Leſnes abbey in Erith, vol. ii. of this hiſtory, p. 252.

died

died poſſeſſed of it in the 29th year of queen Elizabeth, leaving an only daughter and heir Mary, married to Sir Thomas Fane, who in her right poſſeſſed it. Since which it has continued in the ſame owners, that the manor of Mereworth has, and is as ſuch now in the patronage of the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer.

It is valued in the king's books at 14l. 2s. 6d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 8s. 3d.

It appears by a valuation of this church, and a terrier of the lands belonging to it, ſubſcribed by the rector, churchwardens, and inhabitants, in 1634, that there belonged to it, a parſonage-houſe, with a barn, &c. a field called Parſonage field, a cloſe, and a garden, two orchards, four fields called *Summerfourds*, *Aſhfield*, *the Coney-yearth*, and *Millfield*, and the herbage of the church-yard, containing in the whole about thirty acres, that the houſe and ſome of the land where James Goſtlinge then dwelt, paid to the rector for lord's rent twelve-pence per annum; that the houſes and land where Thomas Stone and Henry Filtneſs then dwelt, paid two-pence per annum; that there was paid to the rector the tithe of all corn, and all other grain, as woud, would, &c. and all hay, tithe of all coppice woods and hops, and all other predial tithes uſually paid, as wool, and lambs, and all predials, &c. in the memory of man; that all tithes of a parcel of land called Old-hay, ſome four or five miles from the church, but yet within the pariſh, containing three hundred acres, more or leſs; and the tithe of a meadow plot lying towards the lower ſide of Hadlow, yet in Mereworth, containing by eſtimation twelve acres, more or leſs, commonly called *the Wiſh*, belonged to this church.

The parſonage-houſe lately ſtood at a ſmall diſtance north-eaſtward from Mereworth-houſe; but obſtructing the view from the front of it, the late lord le Deſpencer obtained a faculty to pull the whole of it down, and to build a new one of equal dimenſions, and add to it

it a glebe of equal quantity to that of the ſcite and appurtenances of the old parſonage, in exchange. Accordingly the old parſonage was pulled down in 1779, and a new one erected on a piece of land allotted for the purpoſe about a quarter of a mile weſtward from the church, for the reſidence of the rector of Mereworth and his ſucceſſors.

CHURCH OF MEREWORTH.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Roger de Mereworth	*Martin*, in the reign of king Henry II.[a]
Prior of Tunbridge	*William Smythe*, in 1486. *Hugh Walker*, 1496.[b]
The lady Mary Fane	*Samuel Cooke*, A. B. 1596, obt. Aug. 26, 1638.[c]
Truſtees of Mildmay Fane, eſq...	*Stephen Lion*, inſtit. Sept. 7, 1702.
John, earl of Weſtmoreland	*John Davis*, M. A. 1748, obt. 1776.[d]
Francis, lord le Deſpencer	*Robert Style*, 1776, the preſent rector.[e]

a Reg. Roff. p. 496.
b Ibid. p. 497.
c He lies buried in this church.
d And vicar of Weſt Farleigh.
e Formerly vicar of Town Malling, which he exchanged for Watringbury, which vicarage he holds with this rectory.

THE

THE

HUNDRED OF TWYFORD.

SOUTHWARD from the hundred of Littlefield lies that of Twyford, written in the book of Domeſday, *Tuiferde*, and ſo called from the two fords which were formerly over the two ſtreams of the Medway, juſt above Yalding in this hundred.

THIS HUNDRED contains within its bounds the pariſhes of

1. NETTLESTED,
2. WATRINGBURY,
3. TESTON, and
4. WEST FARLEIGH;

And part of the pariſhes of

5. EAST PECKHAM,
6. YALDING, and
7. HUNTON.

And all the churches of thoſe pariſhes.

It likewiſe contains part of the pariſhes of BRENCHLEY, CAPEL, MARDEN, PEMBURY, and TUDELEY, the churches of which are in other hundreds.

EAST PECKHAM.

SOUTHWARD from Mereworth lies the pariſh of Eaſt or Great Peckham, written in Domeſday, PECHEHAM, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, PECHAM. It has the appellation of Eaſt Peckham from its ſituation eaſtward from Weſt or Little Peckham, and of Great, from its large extent in compariſon of that pariſh.

They both had their name of Peckham probably from their ſituation; *peac* ſignifying in Saxon the peke or ſummit of an hill, and *ham*, a village or dwelling-place.

THIS PARISH is ſituated within the diſtrict of *the Weald*, in a country, which though for the moſt part

too

too deep and miry to be pleaſant, is yet exceedingly fertile as to its products, in corn, hops, and cattle, and is full of fine oak timber, with the trees of which it abounds. It joins northward up to Mereworth, and lord Deſpencer's park, whence it deſcends ſouthward for upwards of two miles to Brandt, formerly called Stidal's bridge, and Sladis bridge, and the river Medway, which flows along the ſouthern boundaries of it, beſides which it is watered by a ſmall ſtream, which riſes near Yokes, in Weſt Peckham, and runs through this pariſh into the river. The high road from Maidſtone through Mereworth, towards Hadlow and Tunbridge, runs along the weſtern boundary of this pariſh, as that from Watringbury through Nettleſted to Brandt bridge, and acroſs the Medway towards Cranbrook, does along the eaſtern boundary of it. In that part of this pariſh next to Mereworth, is the village and church of Eaſt Peckham, and on the riſe of a hill the antient and reſpectable looking manſion of Roydon-hall, the grounds of which are bounded on each ſide by coppice woods; hence the ground deſcends to a more wet and deeper country, being a ſtiff clayey ſoil, moſtly grazing land, exceedingly rich and fertile, on which are bred and fatted ſome of the largeſt beaſts of any in theſe parts. On the roads leading to Brandt-bridge in this part of Eaſt Peckham are ſeveral hamlets, as thoſe of Chitley-croſs, North-hatch, Hale-ſtreet, and others.

This pariſh was antiently bound with others in this neighbourhood to contribute to the repair of the 5th pier of Rocheſter bridge.

In the year 961, queen Ediva, mother of king Edmund and king Eadred, gave to Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, among other lands, this eſtate of Peckham, free from all ſecular ſervice, excepting the *trinoda neceſſitas* of repelling invaſions, and the repair of caſtles and highways.

Peckham

Peckham remained part of the poſſeſſions of Chriſt-church at the conſecration of archbiſhop Lanfranc, in the 4th year of the Conqueror's reign.

The revenues of this church were at that time enjoyed as one common ſtock by the archbiſhop and his convent; but archbiſhop Lanfranc, after the example of foreign churches, ſeparated them into two parts; one of which he allotted for the maintenance of himſelf and his ſucceſſors in the ſee of Canterbury, and the other for his monks, for their ſubſiſtence, cloathing, and other neceſſary uſes.

In this partition, Peckham fell to the ſhare of the monks, and it is accordingly thus entered in Domeſday, under the title of *Terra Monachorum Archiepi*, i. e. the land of the monks of the archbiſhop.

The archbiſhop himſelf holds Pecheham. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor it was taxed at ſix ſulings, and now for ſix ſulings, and one yoke. The arable land is ten carucates. In demeſne there are two, and ſixteen villeins, with fourteen borderers, having four carucates and an half. There is a church, and ten ſervants, and one mill, and ſix acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of ten hogs.

Of the land of this manor, one of the archbiſhop's tenants holds half a ſuling, and was taxed with theſe ſix ſulings in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, although it could not belong to the manor, except in the ſcotting, becauſe it was free land.

Richard de Tonebridge holds of the ſame manor two ſulings and one yoke, and has there twenty-ſeven villeins, having ſeven carucates, and wood for the pannage of ten hogs, the whole value being four pounds. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, the manor was worth twelve pounds, when the archbiſhop received it eight pounds, and now what he has is worth eight pounds.

In the 10th year of king Edward II. the prior of Canterbury obtained free warren for his manor of Peckham among others. About which time it was valued

valued at ten pounds. It continued part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Chriſt-church till its diſſolution in the 31ſt year of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered up to the king, who that year granted this manor to Sir Thomas Wyatt, and his heirs male, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice, and he in the 35th year of that reign conveyed it to George Multon; but there being no fine levied, or recovery had of it, the crown, on the attainder of his ſon, Sir Thomas Wyatt, for high treaſon in the 1ſt year of queen Mary, ſeized on it as part of his poſſeſſions.

The court-lodge and demeſnes of this manor were afterwards granted away by the crown; but THE MANOR ITSELF continued part of the royal revenue at the death of king Charles I. in 1648; after which the powers, then in being, ſeized on the royal eſtates, and paſſed an ordinance to veſt them in truſtees, to be ſurveyed and ſold, to ſupply the neceſſities of the ſtate; in purſuance of which, there was ſoon afterwards a ſurvey taken of this manor, by which it appeared, that the quit-rents due from the freeholders in free ſocage tenure, the like due from the freeholders in the townſhip of Marden, the rent of hens and eggs from the tenants in thoſe townſhips, and the profits of courts, were worth altogether ſeventeen pounds and upwards. That there was a court leet and court baron held for the manor, and a heriot was due from the freeholders of the beſt living thing of ſuch tenant, or in lieu thereof 3s. 4d. in money.

Soon after which this manor was ſold to colonel Robert Gibbon, with whom it continued till the reſtoration of king Charles II. when it again became part of the revenues of the crown.

The grant of it has been many years in the family of the duke of Leeds, the preſent grantee of it being his grace Francis, duke of Leeds.

THE COURT-LODGE WITH THE DEMESNES of the manor of Eaſt Peckham was granted the next year after the attainder

attainder of Sir Thomas Wyatt, by letters patent, anno 1ſt and 2d of king Philip and queen Mary, to Sir John Baker, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice,[f] who paſſed his intereſt in them, in the 2d year of the reign of queen Elizabeth, to Anthony Weldon, eſq. but the crown afterwards diſputing his title to them, the queen, in her 10th year, granted them to William Dodington, and the next year, the attorney-general exhibited an information againſt the heirs of Weldon in the court of exchequer, on account of theſe premiſes, and judgment was had againſt him. After which a writ of error was brought, and divers other law proceedings had, by which, however, at laſt, Ralph, ſon of Anthony Weldon above-mentioned, eſtabliſhed his title to them; and his ſon, Sir Anthony Weldon,[g] in the latter end of the reign of king James I. paſſed them away by ſale to George Whetenhall, eſq. after whoſe death they came by deſcent into the poſſeſſion of Thomas Whetenhall, eſq. of Hextalls-court, in this pariſh, whoſe deſcendant, Henry Whetenhall, eſq. alienated this eſtate to Sir William Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, whoſe deſcendant, Sir William Jarvis Twiſden, bart. is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

ROYDON-HALL, antiently called *Fortune*, is a ſeat here, which was of no great account till about the reign of king Henry VIII. when Thomas Roydon, ſon of Thomas, ſecond ſon of Thomas Roydon, of Roydon-hall, in Suffolk, where this family had been ſeated many generations, and bore for their arms, *Chequy, argent and gules, a croſs azure*, came into this county, and ſeated himſelf at Fortune, and erected this ſeat; on which he affixed his own name, and in the 31ſt year of that reign procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled*, by the act paſſed that year for this purpoſe. He married Margaret, daughter of William Whetenhall,

[f] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. i. See Coke's Entries, p. 78.
[g] See Swanſcombe, vol. ii. of this hiſtory, p. 411.

hall, eſq. of this pariſh, by whom he had three ſons and five daughters.

On the death of the ſons without iſſue, his five daughters became his coheirs; the ſecond of whom, Elizabeth, had this eſtate as part of her ſhare, and intitled her huſband, William Twyſden, eſq. of Chelmington, in this county, to the fee of it. She ſurvived him, and afterwards remarried Cuthbert Vaughan, eſq. and laſtly Sir Thomas Golding. She left by her firſt huſband, one ſon, Roger Twyſden, and a daughter, Margaret, married to Richard Dering, eſq. of Pluckley.

The family of Twyſden, written in antient deeds, Twiſenden, and in Latin, *De Denna Fracta*, were originally of the pariſh of Sandhurſt, in this county, the place where they reſided being called *the Den*, or *borough of Twiſden*, at this time, and bore for their arms, *Giron of four, argent and gules, a ſaltier between four croſs-croſlets, all counterchanged.*

Adam de Twyſden reſided at Twyſden borough, in the 21ſt year of king Edward I. and dying without iſſue, as well as his brother Gregory, John de Twyſden, the youngeſt brother, became his heir. His deſcendant, Roger Twyſden, in the reign of king Henry V. married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Chelmington, eſq. of Chelmington, in Great Chart, who bore for his arms, *Argent, three chevrons azure, nine croſs-croſlets ſable.* At which ſeat his deſcendants, who lie buried in Great Chart church, afterwards reſided, down to William Twyſden, eſq. who was of Chelmington, and married Elizabeth, ſecond daughter and coheir of Thomas Roydon, and in her right became poſſeſſed of Roydon-hall, as above-mentioned, to which he removed ſoon afterwards. He procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled* by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. in which he is called William Twiſenden, and was ſheriff of this county in the 41ſt year of queen Elizabeth. He died in 1603

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and was buried in this church, as was Anne his wife, eldeſt daughter of Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington, who died in 1592, by whom he had iſſue twelve children, of whom only ſix ſurvived him.

William Twyſden, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, greatly improved Roydon-hall, and having been before knighted, was afterwards made a baronet on June 29, 1611. He was a man, who addicted his time moſtly to ſtudy, being verſed in different parts of learning, eſpecially in the Hebrew and Latin languages, and collected many choice manuſcripts and books, which he left to his eldeſt ſon. He died in 1628, and was buried in this church leaving by Anne his wife, eldeſt daughter of Sir Moile Finch, knight and baronet, ſeveral ſons and daughters; of whom Sir Roger, the eldeſt ſon, was his ſucceſſor in title and eſtates here; Sir Thomas, the ſecond ſon, was on the reſtoration of king Charles II. made one of the juſtices of the king's bench, and being afterwards made a baronet, ſeated himſelf at Bradbourn, in Eaſt-Malling, the ſeat of his deſcendant, the preſent Sir John Papillon Twiſden, bart. under which place an account has already been given of that branch; and Charles, the third ſon, was created LL. D. and had given him, by his father's will, the ſeat of Chelmington before mentioned.

Sir Roger Twyſden, knight and baronet, the eldeſt ſon, reſided at Roydon-hall, round which he obtained licence from king Charles I. to incloſe a park, and likewiſe a grant of a charter of free warren for the ground incloſed. He died in 1672, and was buried in this church, having ſuffered greatly for his loyalty during the great rebellion, being forced at laſt to compound for his eſtate for a large ſum of money. He was a great encourager of learning, and a generous patron of learned men, being himſelf a maſter of our antient Saxon and Engliſh hiſtory and laws, and left behind him the united character of the ſcholar and the gentleman. In whoſe deſcendants reſident at Roydon-

hall, who ſeverally lie buried in Eaſt Peckham church, this ſeat with his other eſtates in this pariſh, came down to Sir William Twyſden, bart. who reſided at Roydon-hall, and married Jane, daughter of Francis Twiſden, eſq. youngeſt ſon of Sir Thomas Twiſden, bart. of Bradbourn, by whom he had three ſons; William, his heir and ſucceſſor; Thomas, a colonel in the army; and Philip, late biſhop of Raphoe; and three daughters. He died in 1751, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Sir William Twyſden, bart. who at firſt followed a military life, but afterwards retired to Roydon hall, and married Jane, the daughter and heir of Mr. Jarvis. He died at Roydon-hall in 1767, leaving his lady ſurviving, and by her three ſons, William-Jarvis, Heneage, and Thomas, and one daughter, Frances, who in 1783 married Archibald, late earl of Eglington. Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. the eldeſt ſon, married in 1786, the daughter of governor Wynch, and reſides at Roydon-hall, of which he is the preſent owner.

THE MANOR OF ALBANS, alias *Wimplingbury*, now commonly called AUBORNE, as well as THE MANOR OF BLACKPITTS, alias *Guildfords*, both in this pariſh, were antiently the inheritance of a family named Pollard; for John, ſon of John Pollard, in the 34th year of king Edward I. demiſed them by ſale to Alban de Wandſworth, who probably erected a manſion for his reſidence on the former of theſe manors, which from thence acquired the name of Albans. His grandſon, William de Wandſworth, died poſſeſſed of them without iſſue, and by his laſt will gave them to his widow, Mabel Wandeſworth, who was remarried to Richard Ryner; and they, in the 2d year of king Richard II. joined in the ſale of theſe manors to John Mew, who that year likewiſe purchaſed of Joane Onley ſome intereſt, which ſhe had in them, and which was purchaſed by one of her anceſtors in the reign of Henry III. and in the 9th year of king Richard II. the ſaid John Mew procured

procured from Richard Goldſmith all the intereſt and claim he had in them. John Mew, about the latter end of king Henry IV. paſſed away theſe manors, with their appendages, to John Tutſham and Nicholas Remkin, of Eaſtmere, in this pariſh; the latter of whom leaving an only daughter Alice, ſhe carried his moiety of theſe manors, with other lands in this pariſh, in marriage to Thomas Rolfe, of Tunbridge, whoſe deſcendant, in the beginning of king Henry VI.'s reign, alienated his intereſt in them to Thomas Stidulfe, eſq. of Badſell, who likewiſe purchaſed the other moiety of the heir of Tutſham, and then by deed, bearing date in the 4th year of king Edward IV. ſettled the entire fee of theſe manors on his two ſons, Robert and Henry Stidulfe, in which deed there is mention made of their having been purchaſed of Rolfe and Tutſham.

Soon after which, Robert and Henry Stidulfe joined in the ſale of the manor of Alban's, to John Fane, eſq. of Tunbridge, who died in 1488 poſſeſſed of this manor of Albonys, and other lands in this pariſh, in whoſe deſcendants, of Hadlow, in this county, it continued down to Henry Fane, eſq. of Hadlow, who alienated this manor in 1589 to Roger Twyſden, eſq. of Roydon hall, whoſe direct deſcendant, Sir William Twyſden, bart. died poſſeſſed of it in 1767, and his eldeſt ſon, Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, is the preſent poſſeſſor of the manor of Albans.

But THE MANOR OF BLACKPITTS, alias *Guildfords*, deſcended to Thomas Stidulfe, eſq. of Badſell, only ſon and heir of Robert, and heir likewiſe of his uncle, Henry Stidulfe, poſſeſſors of this manor, as abovementioned, who leaving an only daughter and heir, Agnes, ſhe carried it in marriage to Richard Fane, eſq. of Tudeley, from whom it deſcended in like manner as the manor of Mereworth, to John Fane, earl of Weſtmoreland, and ſince his death *ſ. p.* in 1762, according

to the limitations in his will it is now at length come with his other eſtates in this county, into the poſſeſſion of the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer.

EASTMERE is a manor in this pariſh, which antiently belonged to a family of the name of Remkin.

Chriſtian, daughter of John Remkin, held it, as appears by an antient court roll, in the 34th year of king Edward III. and it continued in that name till Nicholas Remkin, of Eaſtmere, leaving an only daughter and heir, Alice, ſhe carried it in marriage to Thomas Rolfe, of Tunbridge, and his ſon, John Rolfe, alienated it, in the 6th year of king Henry VI. to Richard Ruyton, who two years afterwards conveyed it by ſale to William Hextall, of Hextalls-court, in this pariſh, and he dying without iſſue male, by Margaret, his daughter and heir, it was carried in marriage to William Whetenhall, eſq. whoſe direct deſcendant, Henry Whetenhall, eſq. paſſed it away by ſale to Sir William Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, whoſe grandſon, Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

SPILSTED is a place here which was once accounted a manor, and was for ſeveral deſcents, as appears by the evidences of this eſtate, in the poſſeſſion of the Twyſdens, the inheritance of an antient family called Keyſer. John Keyſer died poſſeſſed of it in the 5th year of king Edward IV. and gave it by will to his ſon, John Keyſer,[h] who dying without male iſſue, on the partition of his eſtates, among his daughters and coheirs, one of them married to Matthew Chetwind entitled her huſband to the poſſeſſion of Spilſted, and he, after ſome ſhort interval, alienated it, in the 41ſt year of queen Elizabeth, to Roger Twyſden, eſq. of Roydon-hall, whoſe deſcendant, Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, is the preſent owner of it.

[h] See Tremain's Pleas of the Crown, Rot. 143.

THERE

THERE was once a ſeat in this pariſh, venerable for its antiquity, which in old rolls was called HEXTALL'S-COURT, and was the manſion of gentlemen of that name, who were of no ſmall account in theſe parts, as well as at Hougham, by Dover in this county, though they were originally ſeated at Hextall manor, in Staffordſhire.

Richard Hextall reſided here in the reign of king Richard II. and increaſed his poſſeſſions greatly by marriage with Anne, the daughter and coheir of Richard Grovehurſt, of Horſemonden. He left two ſons, William and Henry, the eldeſt of whom ſeems to have inherited this place; he died without iſſue male, leaving his two daughters his coheirs, of whom Jane, the eldeſt, married Sir John Bromley, but Margaret, the youngeſt, carried this ſeat in marriage to William Whetenhall, eſq. commonly called Whetnall, ſon of William Whetenhall, citizen and alderman of London,[i] who was deſcended from an antient family of that name, ſeated at Whetenhall, in Cheſhire. He reſided here at the latter end of king Henry VI.'s reign, and at his death left a ſon William, and Margaret his wife ſurviving, who ſoon afterwards was remarried to Henry Ferrers, eſq. of Hambleton, in Rutlandſhire, ſecond ſon of Thomas Ferrers, of Tamworth-caſtle, in Warwickſhire, by whom ſhe had Sir Edward Ferrers, of Badleſley, in Warwickſhire. He poſſeſſed this ſeat in his wife's right, and kept his ſhrievalty here in the 9th year of king Edward IV. as he did again in the 3d year of king Henry VII. at which time he was ſtiled of East Peckham, and bore for his arms, *Gules, ſeven maſcles or, a canton ermine.* But on the death of his wife, Margaret, Hextalls-court reverted to her ſon, by her firſt huſband, William Whetenhall, eſq. alias Whetnall, who bore for his arms, *Vert, a bend ermine*, and in the 18th year of king Henry VIII. was ſheriff of

[i] See Newc. Rep. vol. ii. p. 547, 548, 612, 613.

this county, and in the 31ſt year of it procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled* by act of parliament; in whoſe deſcendants it continued till one of them, not many years ſince, alienated it to John Fane, earl of Weſtmoreland, ſince whoſe death, *ſ. p.* in 1762, it is with Mereworth, and the reſt of his eſtates in this county at length come, by the limitations in his will, into the poſſeſſion of the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of it.

THE *manor of Eaſt Farleigh* extends into this pariſh, including within its bounds THE BOROUGH OF STOKENBURY, which lies in the lower part of it.

At the time of taking the ſurvey of Domeſday, this borough was of ſufficient account to be thought worthy of a place in it, being part of the poſſeſſions of the great biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in it:

Ralph Fitz Turold holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) half a ſuling in Eſtochingeberge. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, two freemen held it, and the like now, and it is valued at twenty ſhillings.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, about four years after the taking the above ſurvey, his poſſeſſions were all confiſcated to the crown, whence this eſtate ſeems to have paſſed to the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, as an appendage to the manor of Eaſt Farleigh and Eaſt Peckham, which, as has been already mentioned, ſtill claims over it, all the lands lying within this borough now paying quit-rent to it; and at the court-leet of that manor a borſholder is conſtantly choſen for the borough of Stokenbury.

The pound belonging to this borough ſtands within it, in the highway leading from Brandt-bridge towards Eaſt Peckham church.

There are no *parochial* charities.

This pariſh is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and being a *peculiar*

liar of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, is as ſuch within the *deanry* of Shoreham.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is a fair large building, with a ſquare tower at the weſt end. It ſtands near the ſummit of the hill almoſt adjoining to the ſouthern pales of Mereworth-park.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Peckham was valued at thirty-five marcs, and the vicarage of it at twelve marcs.[k]

In the reign of king Edward III. the taxation of Eaſt Peckham was one carucate of arable land, with a meadow of the endowment of the church, worth ſix pounds per annum, and two dove-houſes of the rectory, of the endowment of the church, and worth two marcs, and the profit of the garden, of the like endowment, worth 2s. 5d.[l]

The church, with the advowſon of the vicarage, was always appendant to the manor of Eaſt Peckham, and as ſuch part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, till the diſſolution of that monaſtery in the 31ſt year of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, who granted the manor to Sir Thomas Wyatt, and he ſettled this church, with the advowſon of the vicarage, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whoſe poſſeſſions they remain at this time.

This church is valued in the king's books at 23l. and the yearly tenths at 2l. 6s.

The vicarage of it is valued at 14l. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 0s. 8d.

It appears by the terrier of the lands belonging to the impropriate rectory, and vicarage of Eaſt Peckham at the viſitation of archbiſhop Laud in 1634, that the glebe lands belonging to this parſonage in the park of Mildmay, earl of Weſtmoreland, which he had

[k] Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456. [l] Folio Chriſt Church MSS.

from the church of Canterbury, were twenty acres, called Keamehatches; that there were to the parſonage houſe two gardens, one orchard, two yards, three barns, one ſtable, one pidgeon-houſe, one granary, eight acres of meadow, called Well-mead, alias Parſonage-mead, one mead called the Vicarage-mead, containing three acres, and two other parcels of land, containing ſeven acres, called Quarrey-mead, and the Quarrey, and that the tenant of the parſonage was Stephen Arnold; that there was to the vicarage one houſe, with a little orchard, by eſtimation almoſt an acre, and a little garden plot, but that which was called the Vicarage-mead, the impropriator of the parſonage kept and uſed.

On the aboliſhing of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. their lands were by the powers then in being, ordered to be ſold, to ſupply the neceſſities of the ſtate; previous to which a ſurvey was made, in 1649, of this parſonage, by which it appeared, that there were here a houſe, outhouſes, &c. one orchard, one garden, and one great yard, worth ſix pounds per annum, and the tithes and other profits eighty-eight pounds per annum; that the parſonage, with the houſe, glebe lands, tithes, profits, &c. was let by the dean and chapter of Canterbury, in 1638, to John Tucker, gent. of Egerton, excepting one parcel of land, called the Hatches, demiſed to Sir Francis Fane, late earl of Weſtmoreland, and the advowſon of the vicarage, at the yearly rent of 23l. 6s. 8d. but were worth upon improvement, over and above the ſaid ſum, 85l. 14s. 3d. per annum; that the leſſee was bound to repair the premiſes, and the chancel of the church, and likewiſe to pay twenty ſhillings for entertainment money.[m] And by another valuation, taken the next year, the vicarage was valued at twenty-four pounds yearly income.[n]

[m] Lambeth Surveys, vol. xix. [n] MSS. Twyſden.

In

In the 19th year of the reign of king Charles II. anno 1667, in conſequence of the king's letters of injunction, the dean and chapter of Canterbury augmented this vicarage with the yearly ſum of forty pounds; the yearly income of it is now upwards of 270l. per annum.

The preſent leſſee of the parſonage is Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart.

CHURCH OF EAST PECKHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Prior and convent of Chriſt-church	*William Banſon.*
	Richard Eteleſly, obt. May 20, 1426.[o]
	VICARS.
Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.	*Francis Warrell*, in 1634.[p]
	William Polley, 1650.[q]
	..... *Grimes*, about 1660.[r]
	Valentine Chadwick, 1693, obt. 1717.
	Francis Walwin, S. T. P. reſig. 1756.[s]
	Henry Hall, A. M. 1756, obt. Oct. 31, 1763.[t]
	John Davis, S. T. P. Nov. 1763, obt. Feb. 9, 1766.[u]
	William Tatton, June 27, 1766, reſigned 1775.[w]

[o] He lies buried in this church.

[p] MSS. Twyſden.

[q] He was put in by the parliament. MSS. Twyſden.

[r] He had been vicar of Hadlow, from which he was ſequeſtered. Walker's Suff. of Clergy, pt. ii. p. 252.

[s] In 1752 a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding this with St. Mary Bredman, in Canterbury. He afterwards reſigned this for Adiſham. He was prebendary of Canterbury.

[t] And rector of Harbledown, by diſpenſation, in 1756. He was likewiſe rector of the ſinecure of Orpington, and treaſurer of the cathedral of Wells.

[u] He was preb. of Canterbury, and rector of Hamſey, in Suſſex. A diſpenſation paſſed in 1764 for his holding this vicarage with Hamſey.

[w] Prebendary of Canterbury, and rector of Rotherfield, in Suſſex. In 1766 a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding this vicarage with Rotherfield. He reſigned this on being preſented to St. Dionis Backchurch, London.

PATRONS

PATRONS, &c.	RECTORS.
Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.	*George Berkeley*, LL. D. 1775, reſigned Nov. 1788.[x]
	John Lucas, D. D. Nov. 1786, reſigned 1789.[y]
	Thomas Vyner, LL.D. 1789, the preſent vicar.[z]

[x] Son of the late biſhop of Cloyne. A prebendary of Canterbury. In 1775 a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding this vicarage with that of Cookham, in Berkſhire. He reſigned this vicarage for St. Clement Danes, London; as he afterwards did Cookham, on being preſented to the vicarage of Ticehurſt, in Suſſex.

[y] And prebendary of Canterbury.

[z] And prebendary of Canterbury.

WATRINGBURY.

NORTH-EASTWARD from Eaſt or Great Peckham lies Watringbury, called in Domeſday, OTRINGEBERGE, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, WOTRINGABERIA. It is ſuppoſed to have taken its name from its low and watry ſituation.

THE PARISH of Watringbury is almoſt ſquare, about a mile and a quarter each way, and contains about eighty-three families.

So much of it as lies ſouthward of the quarry hills, which croſs the northern part of it, is within the diſtrict of the Weald, beyond which there are ſome coppice woods adjoining to Eaſt-Malling heath. The ſoil is exceedingly fruitful for corn, fruit and hops, being a loam thinly covering the rock ſtone. The village, which ſtands on the high road from Maidſtone towards Mereworth and Tunbridge, is both healthy and pleaſant; in it is the vicarage, a neat genteel houſe, almoſt rebuilt by Mr. Charlton, a late vicar, ſince much improved, and the ground round it laid out in the modern taſte by the Rev. Mr. Style, the preſent vicar, who for ſome time reſided in it; and at the weſt end of it is Watringbury-place, a handſome brick manſion; at the eaſt end of the village is Watringbury-croſs, whence the road leads down to the river Medway, at the ſouth eaſt

eaſt boundary of this pariſh. It is well watered by ſeveral ſprings of ſweet clear water, which riſe near the place-houſe, and run into the ſtream which comes from Mereworth, and turning a mill, goes on ſouth-eaſtward towards the Medway, which it joins near Bow-bridge.

There is *a vill* or *borough* in this pariſh, containing the weſt diviſion of it, *the hamlet* of which is ſituated on the Maidſtone road, adjoining to Mereworth pariſh, being called *Pizein-well*, from one Pizein, who owned the well here.

Lilly is another *hamlet* belonging to this pariſh, which lies about five miles to the ſouth of it, and is ſurrounded by the pariſhes of Yalding, Eaſt Peckham, and Tudeley. It is a low wet place, containing but one houſe, which, with the greateſt part of the land here, was in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Henry Simmonds, who in 1764 alienated his intereſt in it to Alexander Courthorpe, eſq. of Horſemonden, who died a few years ago, and by will gave this among his other eſtates to his nephew John Cole, eſq. of Horſemonden, the preſent owner of it.

There was till of late years, a ſingular, though a very antient cuſtom, kept up, of electing a deputy to the *dumb borſholder of Chart*, as it was called, claiming liberty over fifteen houſes in the precinct of Pizein-well; every houſholder of which was formerly obliged to pay the keeper of this borſholder one penny yearly. This dumb borſholder was always firſt called at the court leet holden for the hundred of Twyford; when its keeper, who was yearly appointed by that court, held it up to his call, with a neckcloth or handkerchief put through the iron ring fixed at the top, and anſwered for it. This borſholder of Chart, and the court leet, has been diſcontinued about ſixty years; and the borſholder, who is put in by the quarter ſeſſions for Watringbury, claims over the whole pariſh.

This dumb borſholder was made of wood, about three feet and half an inch long, with an iron ring at the top,

top, and four more by the ſides, near the bottom, where it had a ſquare iron ſpike fixed, four inches and an half long, to fix it in the ground, or on occaſion to break open doors, &c. which was uſed to be done, without a warrant of any juſtice, on ſuſpicion of goods having been unlawfully come by, and concealed in any of theſe fifteen houſes.

It is not eaſy at this diſtance of time to aſcertain the origin of this *dumb officer*. Perhaps it might have been made uſe of as a badge or enſign, by the officer of the market here. The laſt perſon who acted as deputy to it, was one Thomas Clampard, a blackſmith, whoſe heirs have it now in their poſſeſſion.

The market granted in king Edward IId.'s time as above-mentioned, is reported by tradition to have continued to be held here in a place called Chart-garden, now a wood near Pizein well, in the ſouth-weſt part of this pariſh, in which wood there are to be ſeen foundations of walls and houſes, and in it and the neighbouring lands are ſeveral draw wells.

Watringbury, with other places in this neighbourhood, was bound antiently to contribute to the repair of the fifth pier of Rocheſter bridge.[a]

THIS PLACE, at the time of taking the ſurvey of Domeſday, in the reign of William the Conqueror, was part of the poſſeſſions of Odo, the great biſhop of Baieux and earl of Kent, half-brother to that king; and it is accordingly entered, under the general title of his lands, in that ſurvey as follows:

Ralph Fitz Turald holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Otringeberge. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is five carucates. In demeſne there are two, and ſix villeins, with eight borderers, having three carucates. There is a church, and two mills of three ſhillings, and two acres of meadow, and a fiſhery of thirty eels; wood for the pannage of two hogs. In the time of king Ed-

[a] Lambarde's Perambulation, p. 422.

ward

ward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth forty ſhillings, now ſix pounds. Leveva held it of king Edward.

To this manor belong four houſes in the city, paying three ſhillings.

Hugo de Braiboue holds of the biſhop Otringberge. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is four carucates. In demeſne there is one, and nine villeins, with four borderers, having two carucates. There are three ſervants, and one mill of ſixteen pence, and three acres of meadow; wood for the pannage of two hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth four pounds, now one hundred ſhillings. Godil held it of king Edward.

Leuric de Otringeberge, at the time above-mentioned, is recorded in the ſame ſurvey, to have had the liberties of *ſac* and *ſoc* for his lands within the lath of Aylesford.

In the reign of king Henry II. Richard de Otringeberge appears to have held two knights' fees in Watringbury of Walter de Meduana, who held the ſame of the king *in capite*; which were held in like manner of king Henry I. by Jeffry Talbot.[b]

In the reign of king Henry III. this place continued in the poſſeſſion of the ſame family, Gilbert de Watringberi, who bore for his arms, *Argent, ſix lioncels rampant, ſable*, held this eſtate as one knight's fee and an half, of Warine de Montchenſie.[c]

Soon after which it came into the family of Leyborne, of Leyborne-caſtle, in this neighbourhood. Henry de Leyborne held it in the reign of king Edward II. in the 4th year of which he obtained for his manor of Wateringbury a market there on a Wedneſday, and one fair on the feaſt of St. John the Baptiſt, and free warren in the lands of it. He died without

[b] Libr. Rubr. Scac. f. 84. Philipott, p 352.
[c] Book of Knights fees in the Exchequer.

iſſue,

iſſue, leaving his niece Juliana his heir, who was likewiſe heir to her father Thomas de Leyborne, and likewiſe to her grandfather William; and from the greatneſs of her poſſeſſions in this county was called the Infanta of Kent.

On her death in the 41ſt year of king Edward III. without iſſue by either of her huſbands, this manor, with the appendant ones of Chart, in this pariſh, and of Fowkes, in Mereworth, eſcheated to the crown for want of heirs; for it appears by the inquiſition taken in the 43d year of the above reign, that there was then no one who could make claim to her eſtates, either by direct, or even collateral alliance.[d]

After which the king, by his charter, in the 50th year of his reign, granted theſe manors, among other premiſes, to feoffees, for the endowment of his newly-founded Ciſtertian abbey, called St. Mary Graces, near the Tower of London, and king Richard II. by his letters patent, in his 22d year, granted them to that abbey, in pure and perpetual alms, for the performance of certain religious purpoſes therein mentioned; and he gave licence to the ſurviving feoffees to releaſe theſe premiſes to the abbot and his ſucceſſors for ever.

This manor, with its appendages above-mentioned, remained part of the poſſeſſions of the above monaſtery till the diſſolution of it in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when they were ſurrendered into the king's hands, who in the 36th year of his reign granted them to Giles Bridges, citizen and baker of London, and Robert Harris, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice. Notwithſtanding which, Giles Bridges appears to have had the ſole intereſt in them, and he that year paſſed theſe manors, with woods called Baldinge, Selwood, and Abbots-thorpe, to Sir Robert Southwell, of Mereworth, who two years afterwards had a confirmation of theſe manors. He quickly after alienated them

[d] Philipott, p. 353. Rot. Eſch. N. 57.

to

to Sir Edward North, chancellor of the court of augmentation, and of the privy council, who in the 6th year of king Edward VI. paſſed them away by ſale to Sir Martin Bowes, and he alienated them quickly afterwards to Sir John Baker, of Siſinghurſt, who died in the 5th and 6th year of Philip and Mary, and was ſucceeded in them by his eldeſt ſon, Sir Richard Baker, who in the 1ſt year of queen Elizabeth had poſſeſſion granted of them, but his grandſon John Baker, eſq. in the 17th year of that reign, alienated them to Nevill de la Hay, ſon of Hugh de la Hay, by Anne, daughter and coheir of Thomas Roydon, of Eaſt Peckham, whoſe ſon, George de la Hay, in the latter end of that reign, conveyed the manor of Chart to Roger Twyſden, eſq. of Eaſt Peckham, whoſe deſcendant, Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

BUT THE MANOR of Watringbury, with that of Foulkes, was conveyed by George de la Hay to Mr. Wilkinſon, of Lenham, who bore for his arms, *Gules, a feſs vaire between three unicorns paſſant or*; which coat was confirmed to Richard Wilkinſon, of this place, one of the clerks in chancery, by William Camden, clarencieux, in 1605. He alienated them to Oliver Style, eſq. ſecond ſon of Sir Humphry Style, of Langley, in Beckenham.[e]

He ſerved the office of ſheriff of London, and on purchaſing this manor retired to the manſion of it, called Watringbury-place, where he died in 1622, bearing for his arms, as did his ſeveral deſcendants, *Sable, a feſs or, fretted of the field, between three fleurs de lis, and within a bordure of the ſecond.*

He was ſucceeded in this eſtate by Thomas, his only ſurviving child, who reſided here, and was created a baronet on April 21, 1627, being the third year of king Charles I.

[e] See vol. i. of this hiſtory, p. 542.

His

His grandſon, Sir Thomas Style, bart. of Watringbury-place, married firſt Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Armine, bart. of Oſgodby, in Lincolnſhire, by whom he had Oliver, his only ſurviving ſon, and four daughters, of whom Mary was married to Sir Felix Wild, bart. of Malling, and Suſan to Thomas Dalyſon, eſq. of Hamptons. By his ſecond wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Twiſden, bart. of Bradborne, he had a ſon Thomas, who ſurvived him; and Margaret, married to Robert Viner, eſq.

Sir Thomas Style died in 1702, in his 78th year, and was buried in this church. He was ſucceeded by his only ſurviving ſon, by his firſt marriage, Sir Oliver Style, bart. who died without iſſue the ſame year, and lies buried under a handſome monument, in the ſouth part of this church-yard.[f] On which the title and eſtate deſcended to his half brother Thomas, above-mentioned, who in 1707 pulled down the manſion of Watringbury-place, a very antient building, moated round, and erected the preſent ſeat more to the weſtward of the other, in which he kept his ſhrievalty in the 8th year of queen Anne, anno 1710, and reſided to the time of his death in 1768. He lies buried in this church, as does Elizabeth his wife, eldeſt daughter of Sir Charles Hotham, bart. by whom he had four ſons, Thomas who died in 1741, and lies buried at Ormſkirk, in Lancaſhire; Charles, who ſucceeded him in title and eſtate: Robert, now vicar of this pariſh, and rector of Mereworth, who married Priſcilla, daughter of the Rev. John Davis, late rector of Mereworth; and William, late a major-general, who married Catherine, ſiſter and coheir of John Long Bateman, eſq. of Ireland; and alſo two daughters, Elizabeth and Charlotte, who both died un-

[f] Kimber's Baronetage, vol. i. p. 268, and monumental inſcriptions in this church.

married,

married, the latter at Canons, in this pariſh in 1795. Sir Charles Style, bart. of Watringbury-place, married Miſs Iſabella Wingfield, ſiſter to the lord viſcount Powerſcourt, and dying in London in 1774, was buried in this church, leaving one ſon and one daughter, the former is the preſent Sir Charles Style, bart. of Watringbury-place, who married in 1795 the eldeſt daughter of James Whatman. eſq. of Vinters, in Boxley, and he is the preſent poſſeſſor of the manors of Watringbury and Fowkes.

WESTBERY is a manor in this pariſh, which in the reign of king Henry III. was held by Peter Fitz Robert, of Simon Fitz Adam, as the twentieth part of one knight's fee; after which it came into the poſſeſſion of a family, who took their ſurname from it.[g] Robert de Weſtbery was owner of it in the reign of king Edward II. and his deſcendant, Thomas de Weſtbery, paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III.

The laſt of this name, who owned this place, was John de Weſtbery, who in the beginning of the reign of king Henry VI. dying without iſſue, gave it by will to Agnes Ellis, his niece, and ſhe in the 23d year of that reign, alienated it to Richard Fiſhborne, who in the 33d year of it conveyed it by ſale to Sir Thomas Browne, of Beechworth-caſtle, treaſurer of the houſhold, and privy-counſellor to king Henry VI. whoſe deſcendant Sir Thomas Browne, of the ſame place, in the 25th year of queen Elizabeth, paſſed it away by ſale to Roger Twyſden, eſq. of Eaſt Peckham,[h] whoſe deſcendant Sir Wm. Jarvis Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

CANONS-COURT is a manor here, which acquired that name from its being part of the poſſeſſions of the prior and canons of Leeds.

[g] Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.
[h] Philipott, p. 353. See more of the Brownes under Lenham.

This place, in the reign of king Henry III. was in the tenure of Gilbert de Watringbury, who then held it as one 4th part of a knight's fee, of Simon Fitz Adam, and gave it in pure and perpetual alms to that priory; which gift was confirmed by Bartholomew, his ſon.

It continued part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Leeds till the diſſolution of it, in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was, together with all its revenues, ſurrendered into the king's hands, who by his dotation charter, under his great ſeal, in his 33d year, ſettled it on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, where the inheritance of it ſtill remains.

Mr. Robert Scoles was leſſee of this manor, as well as the parſonage, in 1649, and reſided here, and his ſon, Jaſper Scoles, eſq. died leſſee of both. Since which the family of Style have been for many years tenants to the dean and chapter for both. Sir Charles Style, bart. is the preſent leſſee.

There is a court baron held for this manor.

THE CODDS were an antient family in this pariſh, and had their ſeat in it, called PELICANS, to which belonged a large tract of land. William Codd, eſq. died poſſeſſed of it in the reign of king William and queen Mary, and was buried in this church, leaving by Deborah his wife an only ſon and heir, James Codd, eſq. who reſided at Pelicans, and died whilſt ſheriff in 1708, and was buried here, bearing for his arms, *Argent, a feſs embattled ſable, between ſix pellets.* He died without iſſue and inteſtate; ſo that his eſtate became divided among ſeveral claimants; one of whom, Thomas Kirby, gent. enjoyed the family ſeat, as part of the ſhare which fell to his lot, and his heirs conveyed it to Sir Thomas Style, bart. in whoſe great grandſon, Sir Charles Style, bart. of this pariſh, the preſent inheritance is now veſted.

WARDENS is an eſtate in this pariſh, which was the antient ſeat of the Woods, who bore for their arms, *Argent,*

Argent, on a feſs ragule azure, three fleurs de lis or; which coat was confirmed, or aſſigned by patent, by Segar to Henry Wood, of London and Watringbury, and to Robert Wood, his brother, the laſt of this name who reſided in it, alienated it, about 1674, to Sir Thomas Style, bart. whoſe ſon of the ſame name, conveyed it to William Burleſton, clerk, rector of Warehorne, in whoſe family it remained till about thirty years ago, when it was ſold to Mr. John Whitaker, gent. of Barming, whoſe nephew, Thomas Whitaker, eſq. of Trotteſclive, is the preſent owner of it.

CHARITIES.

HENRY WOOD, citizen and haberdaſher of London, a native of this pariſh, gave, in the year 1630, 40s. per annum to the poor of it for ever; and 8s. per annum for a ſermon to be preached yearly on the Sunday next after Candlemas-day in the afternoon; when the diſtribution of the money is to be made.

OLIVER STYLE, ESQ. in 1632, gave the weekly ſum of 1s. to be diſtributed in bread in the church, every Sunday, to ſix poor perſons for ever.

THE LADY of Sir Thomas Style, bart. in 1737, gave the ſilver flaggon and plate, for the altar.

MRS. CHARLTON, relict of the late Mr. George Charlton, the vicar, was a benefactor to this church, by giving the pulpit cloth and cuſhion, and other things to it, at different times.

THERE has been A SCHOOL in this pariſh at times for teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic, for near 100 years; but as there is neither houſe nor ſalary for the maſter, the number of ſcholars is very uncertain.

WATRINGBURY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, ſtands at the weſt end of the village, It is an antient gothic building, with a high ſpire ſteeple, in which hang three bells, it was repaired at a great expence in 1745; the church is handſomely pewed and

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Mr. Robert Scoles was leſſee of this manor, as well as the parſonage, in 1649, and reſided here, and his ſon, Jaſper Scoles, eſq. died leſſee of both. Since which the family of Style have been for many years tenants to the dean and chapter for both. Sir Charles Style, bart. is the preſent leſſee.

There is a court baron held for this manor.

THE CODDS were an antient family in this pariſh, and had their ſeat in it, called PELICANS, to which belonged a large tract of land. William Codd, eſq. died poſſeſſed of it in the reign of king William and queen Mary, and was buried in this church, leaving by Deborah his wife an only ſon and heir, James Codd, eſq. who reſided at Pelicans, and died whilſt ſheriff in 1708, and was buried here, bearing for his arms, *Argent, a feſs embattled ſable, between ſix pellets.* He died without iſſue and inteſtate; ſo that his eſtate became divided among ſeveral claimants; one of whom, Thomas Kirby, gent. enjoyed the family ſeat, as part of the ſhare which fell to his lot, and his heirs conveyed it to Sir Thomas Style, bart. in whoſe great grandſon, Sir Charles Style, bart. of this pariſh, the preſent inheritance is now veſted.

WARDENS is an eſtate in this pariſh, which was the antient ſeat of the Woods, who bore for their arms, *Argent,*

Argent, on a feſs ragule azure, three fleurs de lis or; which coat was confirmed, or aſſigned by patent, by Segar to Henry Wood, of London and Watringbury, and to Robert Wood, his brother, the laſt of this name who reſided in it, alienated it, about 1674, to Sir Thomas Style, bart. whoſe ſon of the ſame name, conveyed it to William Burleſton, clerk, rector of Warehorne, in whoſe family it remained till about thirty years ago, when it was ſold to Mr. John Whitaker, gent. of Barming, whoſe nephew, Thomas Whitaker, eſq. of Trotteſclive, is the preſent owner of it.

CHARITIES.

HENRY WOOD, citizen and haberdaſher of London, a native of this pariſh, gave, in the year 1630, 40s. per annum to the poor of it for ever; and 8s. per annum for a ſermon to be preached yearly on the Sunday next after Candlemas-day in the afternoon; when the diſtribution of the money is to be made.

OLIVER STYLE, ESQ. in 1632, gave the weekly ſum of 1s. to be diſtributed in bread in the church, every Sunday, to ſix poor perſons for ever.

THE LADY of Sir Thomas Style, bart. in 1737, gave the ſilver flaggon and plate, for the altar.

MRS. CHARLTON, relict of the late Mr. George Charlton, the vicar, was a benefactor to this church, by giving the pulpit cloth and cuſhion, and other things to it, at different times.

THERE has been A SCHOOL in this pariſh at times for teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic, for near 100 years; but as there is neither houſe nor ſalary for the maſter, the number of ſcholars is very uncertain.

WATRINGBURY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is dedicated to St. John Baptiſt, ſtands at the weſt end of the village, It is an antient gothic building, with a high ſpire ſteeple, in which hang three bells, it was repaired at a great expence in 1745; the church is handſomely pewed and

wainſcotted. There are ſome remains of good painted glaſs in the windows, particularly of king Edward III. and his queen, and before the late great hail ſtorm, there was in the ſouth window the hiſtory of the decollation of St. John Baptiſt, pretty entire; but it was then part of it broke to pieces.

This church, which was antiently appendant to the manor of Canons-court, was given in the reign of king Henry II. by Hamo, ſon of Richard de Watringbury, lord of this pariſh, to the prior and canons of Leeds, and it was confirmed to it by Walter, then biſhop of Rocheſter, who, on the reſignation of Walter, then parſon of it, admitted the prior, in the name of his convent, into the actual poſſeſſion of it.[1]

It was ſome time after this appropriated to that priory; in which ſituation it continued till the diſſolution of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was, among the other poſſeſſions of the priory, ſurrendered up to the king, who by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, ſettled both the parſonage, and advowſon of the vicarage, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom they now remain. The leſſee of the parſonage has always been the ſame as of Canon-court, the preſent leſſee being Sir Charles Style, bart. but the dean and chapter retain the advowſon in their own hands.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. the poſſeſſions of the dean and chapter of Rocheſter, in this pariſh, were ſurveyed in 1649, by order of the ſtate; when it appeared, that they conſiſted of the manor of Canon-court, together with the rectory or parſonage of Watringbury appendant to that manor, and certain woodlands there. That the parſonage conſiſted of all the tithes, and tithe-corn, annually coming, ariſ-

[1] Reg. Roff. p. 313, 676. See the confirmations of this gift, Ibid. p. 211.

ing,

ing, and growing out of all the lands and fields within the precincts and extreme bounds of this pariſh, with all commodities and appurtenances belonging to them, which premiſes were valued at the annual ſum of ſixty pounds, and were let by the late dean and chapter, in the 15th year of the late king Charles, to Robert Scoles, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of 13l. 6s. 8d. and ſix capons, valued at twelve ſhillings, which rent was apportioned, 5l. 6s. 8d. to the manor of Canon-court, the ſame being worth 36l. 2s. 7d. yearly, over and above the ſaid rent; and the remainder of the rent, being 8l. 12s. was apportioned to the parſonage, which was worth yearly, over and above the ſame, 51l. 8s. That the leſſee was bound to repair the premiſes, and the chancel of the church, and that he was immediate tenant of theſe premiſes. That the advowſon, or right of patronage to the vicarage, belonged to the lord of the above-mentioned manor, which vicarage was then worth 30l. per annum.[k]

The vicarage of Watringbury is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-eight pounds, the yearly tenths of which are ten ſhillings.

Mr. George Charlton, vicar of this place, rebuilt the vicarage-houſe in 1731, at the expence of 400l. and having obtained 100l. of Sir William Langhorne's legacy, and 15l. 15s. from the dean and chapter of Rocheſter, he added the reſidue to make it the ſum of 200l. and thereby entitled this vicarage to queen Anne's bounty of the further ſum of 200l. with which it was augmented about the year 1732.

[k] Parl. Surveys, Lambeth libr. vol. xiv.

CHURCH OF WATRINGBURY

PATRONS, Or by whom presented.	RECTORS.
Family of Watringbury	*Walter, temp.* Henry II. resigned .....[l]
	VICARS.
Prior and convent of Leeds	..... *Averell*, in 1486.[m]
Dean and Chapter of Rochester ..	*Ralph Calverly*, obt. 1587.
	Thomas Brand, obt. 1620.
	Thomas Warrel, obt. 1652.
	Benjamin Cutler, obt. 1693.
	James Hunter, obt. Sept. 1729.[n]
	George Charlton, A. M. instit. Dec. 22, 1729, obt. 1734.
	..... *Hodges*, obt. 1736.
	John Butler, A. M. 1737, obt. 1747.[o]
	John Upton, A. M. resigned 1752.[p]
	Richard Husband, A. M. 1752, resigned 1770.[q]
	Robert Style, 1770, the present vicar.[r]

l Reg. Roff. p. 213.
m Ibid. p. 166.
n He lies buried in this church, as does his ſucceſſor.
o Alſo vicar of Stockbury by diſpenſation in 1737.
p And prebendary of Rocheſter.
q Minor canon of Rocheſter.
r He exchanged Town Malling with his predeceſſor for this vicarage, being likewiſe rector of Mereworth by diſpenſation. He was third ſon of the late Sir Thomas Style.

NETTLESTED.

SOUTHWARD from Watringbury lies Nettlested, called in Domeſday, *Nedeſted*.

THIS PARISH lies on the weſtern bank of the Medway, which is its eaſtern boundary, whence the ground riſes up to the grounds of Roydon-hall, at the oppoſite ſide of it. It is within the diſtrict of the Weald. The ſituation is low, and rather of a gloomy aſpect, from the number of ſpreading and lofty oaks an

and elm trees interſperſed throughout it; the ſoil a fertile clay, conſiſting much of it of rich grazing land like that already deſcribed in the adjoining pariſh of Eaſt Peckham, though it is equally fertile for the growth of corn and hops in the upper parts of it. The high road from Maidſtone through Watringbury to Tunbridge, branches off from Watringbury, and leads through this pariſh, not far from the bank of the river; in the northern part of it is the church, and at ſome diſtance from it the remains of the antient *Place houſe*, by which it appears to have been built of ſtone, with handſome fized gothic windows; on a ſtone portal, in the weſt front is the date 1587, probably that of ſome large repair or addition made to it, as the other parts of the building carry with them marks of much greater antiquity. The grand entrance to the houſe from the river is yet ſtanding. The form of the antient gardens with the ponds are yet remaining. The manſion appears to have been ſpacious and noble, equal to the reſpectable families who once reſided in it, though now it is for the moſt part over-run with weeds and ſpontaneous ſhrubs, and bears with it every mark of that viciſſitude and ruin which is the inevitable lot of the tranſitous labours of man, however his utmoſt endeavours may have been exerted to prevent it. It is now made uſe of as an oaſt to dry hops, and for a labourer to dwell in, the occupier of the manor farm living in a modern houſe between it and the church, hence the road leads through the village built at Nettleſted-green, whence it divides, that to the left leading towards the river at Twyford-bridge, and the other ſtrait forward through Hailſtreet to it at Brandt-bridge, both leading towards the ſouthern parts of the Weald and Suſſex. The groves of young oaks, elms, and other trees, planted along the borders of the river Medway, contribute greatly to the beauty of the ſcenery, which is conſiderably heightened by the rich gardens of hops, and the dif-

ferent dwellings and cottages intervening at frequent ſpaces between them.

This pariſh, with others in this neighbourhood, was antiently bound to contribute to the repair of the fifth pier of Rocheſter bridge.

IN THE REIGN of William the Conqueror, this place was part of the poſſeſſions of the king's half-brother, Odo, biſhop of Baieux and earl of Kent, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken about the year 1080.

Haimo holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Nedeſtede. It was taxed at three ſulings. The arable land is ſix carucates. In demeſne there is one, and fourteen villeins, having five carucates. There is a church, and fourteen ſervants, and two mills of fourteen ſhillings, and a fiſhery of two ſhillings, and ſeven acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of thirty-five hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth eight pounds, afterwards ſix pounds, now eight pounds and five ſhillings. Norman held it of king Edward.

Of this manor the biſhop has thirty ſhillings and two houſes.

And again in another place, in the ſame record:

Adam holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) one yoke in Pimpa. The arable land is . . . He has there half a carucate, with two ſervants, and four acres of meadow and half a fiſhery, untaxed; wood for the pannage of ſix hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor it was worth ſix ſhillings, and afterwards five ſhillings, now ten ſhillings, yet it pays fifteen ſhillings. Godric held it of king Edward.

By another entry in the ſame book it appears, that Rayner, or Rannulf de Columbels, who held the manor of Weſt Farleigh under the biſhop, as one ſuling, held likewiſe another part of this eſtate, for after the deſcription of his holding that manor it thus continues.

Of

Of this ſuling Rayner (de Columbus) holds one yoke of the biſhop in the manor of Pimpe, and he has there one carucate with nine ſervants, and three acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of four hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth twenty ſhillings, now forty ſhillings. Alnod Cilt held it of king Edward.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, about four years after the taking of the above ſurvey, all his eſtates became confiſcated to the crown, and theſe mentioned above, which comprehended the manors of Nettleſted, with thoſe of Hylth and Pimpe, were afterwards held of the Clares, earls of Glouceſter, as chief lords of the fee, by the eminent family of Pimpe, who took their name from the latter of them, making it the principal ſeat of their reſidence, though they had another ſeat afterwards in Eaſt Farleigh, in this neighbourhood, and a third at Alhallows, in the hundred of Hoo. They bore for their arms, *Gules, two bars argent, a chief vaire*, as they now remain painted in the windows of this church.

Richard de Pimpe held theſe manors in the reigns of king Edward I. and II. and his deſcendant, Sir Philip de Pimpe, was a man of eminence and property in this county, as appears by his being one of thoſe, who in the 11th year of king Edward III. were, in reſpect to their eſtates, aſſeſſed to furniſh a guard for the defence of the ſea coaſts; towards which Sir Philip was ordered to provide two men at arms.[s]

His widow Joane married John de Cologne, who, together with her ſon, Sir Thomas de Pimpe, paid reſpective aid for their lands in Nettleſted, and adjoining to it, in the 20th year of king Edward III. that is to ſay,

"For the manor of Nettleſted, the manor of Hylth and Hylth park, with other lands in Nettleſted

[s] See Alhallows in Hoo, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 29.

and

and Hylth, for the manor of Pimpe, in Nettleſted, Crongebery, and Pimpe, all which were held of the earl of Glouceſter, as chief lord of the fee.

William, ſon of Sir Thomas de Pimpe, poſſeſſed Nettleſted, and kept his ſhrievalty here in the 37th, 45th, and 49th years of king Edward III. in which year he died, and his ſon, Reginald de Pimpe, of Pimpe's-court, in Eaſt Farleigh, on his death, ſerved that office the remainder of that year.

His deſcendants continued to reſide at Pimpe's-court, in this pariſh, two of whom, Reginald and John Pimpe, unſucceſsfully engaging, with others, in aſſiſting Henry, duke of Buckingham, againſt king Richard III. were attainted, and their eſtates were declared forfeited to the crown. But on the death of king Richard, and the earl of Richmond's attaining the crown, they were reſtored in blood and eſtates. Reginald Pimpe died without male iſſue, leaving an only daughter and heir Anne, for whom an act had paſſed in the 1ſt year of that reign, and ſhe married to Sir John Scott, of Scotts-hall, and John Pimpe, in the 2d year of king Henry VII. kept his ſhrievalty at Pimpe's-court, in Eaſt Farleigh. He died in the 11th year of that reign, anno 1495, being then poſſeſſed of the manor, with the advowſon of the church of Nettleſted, the manor of Hilthe, and alſo the manor of Pimpe, with its appurtenances, in this pariſh and Yalding, and certain other lands and tenements in Yalding, all held of the ducheſs of Buckingham. He left an only daughter and heir, Winifred, married to Sir John Rainsford, who in her right poſſeſſed this manor. He died *ſ. p.* 1ſt Elizabeth, leaving his wife ſurviving, who appears by the eſcheat rolls to have been a lunatic, and to have died poſſeſſed of theſe manors and eſtates in the 18th year of that reign; when Sir Thomas Scott, of Scotts-hall, (grandſon of Sir John Scott above-mentioned) ſeems to have ſucceeded to them,

as

as her next of kin, and his ſecond ſon, Sir John Scott, poſſeſſed it afterwards, and reſided at Nettleſted, which by the date remaining on the ruins of it, he ſeems to have made great additions to. He was twice married, but left iſſue by neither of his wives, and theſe manors and their appurtenances, came on his death to his brother, Edward Scott, eſq. of Scottshall, whoſe deſcendant, George Scott, eſq. of Scottshall, alienated the manors of Nettleſted, Health and Pimpe, with the manſion and advowſon of the church of Nettleſted, by authority of an act of parliament paſſed anno 10 and 11 William III. to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Teſton, whoſe ſon, Sir Philip Boteler, bart. died poſſeſſed of them in 1772, having by his will deviſed one moiety of his eſtates to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, and the other moiety to Elizabeth, viſcounteſs dowager of Folkeſtone, and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor, both ſince deceaſed; and on a partition of his eſtates between them, the manors and eſtates of Nettleſted, with the appendant advowſon, were among others, allotted to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, now of Teſton, the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

THE MANOR OF LOMEWOOD, alias *Layſers*, formerly called *Lomewood*, alias *Bromes*, in this pariſh, was part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Clare, earls of Glouceſter, and was ſettled by one of them on the priory of Black Canons, at Tunbridge, in this county.

This manor continued part of the revenues of the above priory till its diſſolution in the 16th year of king Henry VIII. After which the king, in his 17th year, granted the above priory, with others then ſuppreſſed for the like purpoſe, together with all their manors, lands, and poſſeſſions, to Cardinal Wolſey, for the better endowment of his college, called Cardinal college, in Oxford.

But

But four years afterwards, the cardinal being caſt in a *præmunire*, all the poſſeſſions of the college, which through want of time had not been firmly ſettled on it, became forfeited to the crown,[t] and the king, in his 27th year, granted this manor of Lomewood, alias Le Bromys, with all lands, &c. belonging to it in this pariſh, to Sir Edward Nevill, third ſon of George Nevill, lord Abergavenny, who, in conſideration of a marriage to be had between his daughter Katherine, and George Roydon, ſon and heir apparent of Thomas Roydon, eſq. of Eaſt Peckham, and of a certain ſum paid to him, conveyed it, by the name of Cardinals lands, called Bromes, in Lomewood, to Thomas Roydon above-mentioned.

On the death of whoſe ſons without iſſue, his five daughters became his coheirs; the ſecond of whom, Elizabeth, as part of her ſhare of the inheritance, entitled her huſband, William Twyſden, eſq. of Chelmington, to this manor, then held *in capite*, and in his deſcendants it has continued down to Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. of Roydon-hall, in Eaſt Peckham, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

CHARITIES.

JOHN THUNDER, about the year 1756, gave by will 5s. worth of bread, to be diſtributed yearly on Good Friday, to the poor of this pariſh for forty years, which term is now expired.

NETTLESTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which ſtands at the eaſt ſide of the village, is dedicated to St. Mary. It is a ſmall but handſome building, with a low pointed tower or ſteeple. There are good remains of painted glaſs in it.

[t] See Leſnes abbey in Erith, where a further account is given of the foundation and endowment of this college, v. ii. p. 252.

The

The church of Nettleſted was always eſteemed an appendage to the manor, and as ſuch is now in the patronage of Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Teſton.

Edmund, biſhop of Rocheſter, anno 1486, at the inſtance of John Pimpe, eſq. lord of the manor, and patron of the church of Barmingjett, united that church to this of Nettleſted; and decreed, that after ſuch union the former ſhould not be eſteemed as a church, but as a chapel, dependent, united, and annexed to this church of Nettleſted; the rector of which and his ſucceſſors ſhould for the future have and enjoy all profits, tithes, and emoluments, &c. belonging to the church of Barmingjett, and convert and freely diſpoſe of the ſame to his and their own proper uſes for ever. And he decreed, that the rector and his ſucceſſors ſhould in future pay yearly to the biſhop of Rocheſter and his ſucceſſors, twenty pence, and to the archdeacon twelve pence yearly, in lieu of ſuch payments as belonged to them of antient cuſtom from the church of Barmingjett, before the annexing and conſolidating of the ſame."

In which ſituation it continues at this time; the rector of Nettleſted being preſented, inſtituted and inducted to, the rectory of Nettleſted, with the chapel of Barmingjett annexed.

It is valued in the king's books, with the chapel of Barmingjett annexed, at 12l. 10s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 5s. 1d.

The learned Sir Roger Twyſden, who lived in the reigns of king James and Charles I. in his diſcourſe on the Weald, ſays, that in the time of the lady Golding, who hired the tithes of this pariſh, Nettleſted was held to be in the Weald, and ſhe denied the tithe of wood accordingly; yet the rector of it affirmed then to Sir Roger, that all, who had wood

" Reg. Roff. p. 162. See more of this under Weſt Barming, alias Barmingjett.

in

in the parish, paid tithe of it at that time to him, excepting himself.

The parsonage-house is a large antient well timbered building, having a court-yard before it, and an antient gateway, through which is the entrance to it from the high road.

CHURCH OF NETTLESTED, with the CHAPEL OF BARMINGJETT annexed.

PATRONS, *Or by whom presented.*	RECTORS.
Lords of the manor of Nettlested...	*Thomas Hundbache*, 1486.[w]
	William Jemmat, about 1625.[x]
	John Pattenden, A. M. about 1630.[y]
	..... *Deacon*, ejected 1662.[z]
	..... *Ward.*
	Samuel Rhodes, A. M. obt. 1714.
	Thomas Brewer, gent. obt. April 1, 1714.[a]
	John Richards, A M.[b]
	Duncan Menzies, A. M. instit. 1761, obt. Sept. 27, 1781.[c]
	James Ramsey, 1781, obt. 1789.[d]
	John Kennedy, 1789, the present rector.[e]

[w] Reg. Roff. p. 162.

[x] See Wood's Ath. Ox. vol. ii. p. 607.

[y] MSS. Twysden.

[z] He was ejected by the Bartholomew Act.

[a] He was the son of Thomas Brewer, esq of West Farleigh. He lies buried in this church, and on his gravestone is stiled the Rev. Thomas Brewer, gent.

[b] Also vicar of Teston. He afterwards went distracted.

[c] And vicar of Teston.

[d] In 1782 a dispensation passed for his holding this rectory with Teston vicarage.

[e] And vicar of Teston.

TESTON.

LIES the next parish eastward from Watringbury. It is vulgarly called Teeson. In the book of Domesday

day it is written TESTAN, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, TERSTANA.

This pariſh is a borough, and has a court leet of itſelf, where the borſholder is choſen, and the inhabitants of it owe no ſervice to the court leet holden for the hundred of Twyford; but a conſtable for that hundred may be choſen there out of this borough.

TESTON is beautifully ſituated on the ſide of a hill, declining ſouthward towards the river Medway, which is its ſouthern boundary oppoſite to Weſt Farleigh. The ſoil is in general a fertile loam, covering the quarry rock, which at the ſame time that it is dry and healthy, is exceeding kindly for corn, fruit and hop plantations. The high road from Maidſtone towards Watringbury and Tunbridge, leads along the lower part of this pariſh, between which and the river the neat kept graſs lands, ſeparated from the road by a handſome white-railed fence, have a very pleaſing effect. Hence the road branches off, to the right to Ofham and Town Malling, and to the left to Cocks heath, Yalding, and the Weald, acroſs the river, over which there is here a lofty ſtone bridge of ſeven arches, which, notwithſtanding its height, is frequently rendered impaſſable from the ſudden overflowings of the river, which here at times frequently riſes near eighteen feet above its uſual ſurface, in the ſpace of twenty-four hours, and as quickly falls again, unleſs it is again augmented by repeated rains. Teſton park pales adjoin the northern ſide of the Maidſtone road, hence the park riſes to Teſton-houſe, which being of white ſtucco, is a conſpicuous object to the neighbouring country, and with the adjoining grounds, ſome years ſince, were greatly ornamented and laid out in the modern taſte by Mrs. Bouverie; at the back of the houſe the ground keeps riſing, and the park which is well covered with fine large trees, as well as modern plantations of various ſorts, extends to the woods, which are remarkably well filled with large oak

trees,

trees, and to East-Malling heath, but in these parts it is a more wet and deeper soil, and less fertile than the more southern parts of this parish. From Teston house there is a most beautiful view, having in front the river Medway, the bridge, the cascades at Tutsham, and the lock below them, with the pretty village of West Farleigh, and its church, on the opposite hill. South-westward the prospect extends along the valley, where nature and art combine their powers to render the scene more delightful, having the river Medway meandring its silver stream through part of it, the elegant mansion and church of Mereworth beyond, and at the extremity the lofty woods on the range of hills, above the town of Tunbridge. The village, with the church and the vicarage, a neat modern built sashed house stand mostly within the western pales of the park, at no great distance from Teston house, close to the front of which the high Maidstone road passed, till not many years since the late Sir Philip Boteler procured it to be altered to its present situation, at a greater distance, where it now forms a kind of half circle midway, between the house and the river.

The western extremity of this parish is the boundary of the Weald, that is from the hill above Watringbury, across the river, towards the hill above Burston in Hunton, excluding Teston from its district.

Dr. Plott mentions his having discovered a piece of a Roman way, which seemed to have passed the Medway about Teston, and which he thought crossed Cocks-heath, and pointed towards Lenham, but I believe it was merely founded on his own conjecture.

Willow weed, or *lysamachia*, grows much on each side of the highway near Teston-bridge.

Tanacetum, or *garden tansey*, grows in great plenty in the meadows on the bank of the Medway, between Teston and Barming.

TESTON was part of thoſe vaſt poſſeſſions with which William the Conqueror enriched his half-brother, Odo, biſhop of Baieux, whom he afterwards made earl of Kent, and it is accordingly thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

Adeold held Teſtan of the biſhop (of Baieux) and Robert now holds it to ferme. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is . . . In demeſne there are two carucates and an half, and ſeven villeins, with three borderers having one carucate. There are twelve ſervants, and one mill of three ſhillings, and eight acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of twenty hogs.

In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth one hundred ſhillings, and afterwards ſixty ſhillings, now one hundred ſhillings. Edward held it of king Edward.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, about four years after taking the above ſurvey, this eſtate, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions, became confiſcated to the crown, whence it ſeems to have been granted by the Conqueror to Robert, ſon of Hamon de Crevequer; whoſe deſcendant, Hamon de Crevequer, died poſſeſſed of it in the 47th year of king Henry III. holding it *in capite*, as a member of the manor of Chatham, which was held of the king *in capite* by barony.[f] He left Robert, his grandſon, his heir, who afterwards took part with the diſcontented barons againſt the king; upon which this manor was ſeized on, among the reſt of his eſtates; and it ſeems to have remained in the hands of the crown till king Edward I. gave it to Eleanor his queen, who in the 18th year of that reign, made a donation of it, with other premiſes, to the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, in exchange for the port of Sandwich, which

[f] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. N. 33. See more of the Crevequers, under Chatham, vol. iv. p. 205.

gift king Edward I. confirmed that year.[g] King Edward II. by his charter, in his 10th year, granted to the prior of Chriſt-church, free warren in all the demeſne lands which the priory poſſeſſed here in the time of his grandfather, or at any time ſince.

The manor of Teſton continued part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Chriſt-church till the diſſolution of it in the 31ſt year of king Henry VIII. when it was, together with all its lands and revenues, ſurrendered up to the king, who that year granted this manor, among other premiſes, to Sir Thomas Wyatt, to hold *in capite*, whoſe ſon of the ſame name having raiſed a rebellion in the 1ſt year of queen Mary, was attainted, and his eſtates forfeited to the crown; and the queen next year granted this manor to Sir John Baker, her attorney-general,[h] to hold *in capite*, and in his deſcendants it continued down to Sir John Baker, bart. of Siſinghurſt, who after the death of Charles I. alienated it to Mr. Jaſper Cleyton, of London, and he paſſed it away by ſale in the reign of king Charles II. to Sir Oliver Boteler, bart. of Berham-court, in this pariſh, whoſe grandſon, Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of the ſame place, died poſſeſſed of it in 1772, without iſſue, and by will deviſed one moiety of his eſtates to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, and the other to Elizabeth, viſcounteſs dowager Folkeſtone; and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor, both ſince deceaſed, and on a partition of his eſtates, this manor was, among others, allotted to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, now of Berham-court, alias Teſton-houſe, in this pariſh, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

Teston-house, formerly known by the name of *Berham-court*, was once the manſion or reſidence of the family of Berham, uſually called Barham, whoſe original name was Fitz Urſe.

[g] Tan. Mon. p. 201. Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 37.
[h] See more of the Wyatts, vol. 4, p. 339, 451.

Randal

Randal Fitz Urſe was one of thoſe four knights, (the other three were, William Tracy, Richard Britton, and Hugh Morvill) belonging to Henry II.'s houſhold, men ſaid by hiſtorians to have been eminent for their birth, who undertook to murder archbiſhop Thomas Becket, which they accompliſhed in the cathedral church of Canterbury, on December 30, anno 1170.[i]

After this Randal Fitz Urſe fled into Ireland, and there altered his name to Mac-Mahon, which in the Iriſh tongue ſignifies as much as, *the ſon of a bear*; upon his flight Robert de Berham, his kinſman, entered on his eſtate in this pariſh, and from him it deſcended to John de Berham, who was by Henry, prior of Chriſt-church, created a public notary of the dioceſe of Canterbury, in the year 1309, an office at that time of much truſt and eminence, which the prior was impowered to inveſt any perſon with, by a commiſſion granted to him by Baſſianus de Alliate, count palatine of Milan, who had received ſuch power originally from the emperor. The family of Berham bore for their arms, *Argent, three bears paſſant ſable, muzzled or.* There was a branch of this family ſettled at Wadhurſt, in Suſſex, of which was Nicholas Berham, ſergeant at law; and another branch was of Boughton Monchelſea, in this county, of which was Robert Berham, who was comptroller of the pipe. Both of theſe bore the above coat of arms, with *a feſs gules, and on it a fleur de lis, between two martlets or.*[k]

In the deſcendants of John de Berham abovementioned, this ſeat continued down to Thomas Berham, eſq. of Berham-court, who left one daughter and heir Anne, who carried this eſtate of Berham-court in marriage to Sir Oliver Boteler, of Sharnbrooke, in Bedfordſhire, on which he removed hither, and

[i] Brompt. p. 1063. Hoveden, p. 521. R. de Diceto, p. 555.
[k] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree Berham.

was knighted by king James I. at Whitehall, in 1604. This family is deſcended from Thomas Pincerna, who lived in the reign of king John, and ſealed with a covered cup, with this inſcription, as appears by the old deeds of the family, encircling the ſeal, *Sigillum Thomæ Pincernæ*, probably from his being chief butler to that prince, whence his ſucceſſors aſſumed the name of Butler or Boteler. His deſcendant was Robert le Boteler, called in a Latin deed without date, *Robertus Pincerna*, as is ſuppoſed, likewiſe from his office; and he left iſſue three ſons, Robert, called in a Latin deed without date, *Le Boteler*; Thomas; and William, who was a prieſt. The deſcendants of Robert le Boteler, who afterwards wrote themſelves Boteler only, ſettled firſt at Yatton, and afterwards at Droitwich, in Worceſterſhire, when they altered their name to Butteler, after which about king Henry VIIIth.'s reign, George Butteler, eſq. removed his reſidence to Sharnbrooke, in Bedfordſhire. His deſcendant, Oliver Butteler, eſq. of Sharnbrooke, firſt changed the ſpelling of his name again to Boteler, and having married Anne, daughter and ſole heir of Thomas Berham, eſq. of Berham-place, removed hither as has been already mentioned. He bore for his arms, firſt, *Boteler, argent on a chief ſable, three cups or*; ſecondly, *Boteler* again, *Gules, a chevron between three cups, or*, quartered with *Wibbe, Froxmore, Bachecott, and Berham*. He died in London, in 1632, and was buried at Teſton, whoſe eldeſt ſon, Sir John Boteler, of Berham-court, dying without iſſue, was ſucceeded by his next ſurviving brother William, who during his eldeſt brother's life reſided at Saltwood, and on his death became his heir, and removed to Berham-court. He was a man of exemplary loyalty, and firm in his attachment to his royal maſter king Charles I. by whom he was firſt knighted, and afterwards, in 1641, created a baronet, and became one of the gentlemen penſioners. In 1642 he joined with the neighbouring gentry

gentry in preſenting a petition to the houſe of commons for a peace, which was delivered by captain Richard Lovelace, for which by order of the houſe, Sir William was impriſoned in the Fleet for ſeven weeks, whence he was releaſed on giving 20,000l. bail.

He afterwards ſuffered greatly; his houſe of Berham-court being broken open, robbed and plundered of almoſt every thing valuable in it, and the reſt deſtroyed, and he himſelf, with his ſon, forced to compound for his eſtate for 3011l. and upwards.

Sir William Boteler afterwards raiſed and armed a regiment, at his own expence, for the king's ſervice, at the head of which he was ſlain, together with Sir John Clerke, of Ford, in this county, in the fight between the king's forces and thoſe of the parliament, under Sir William Waller, at Cropredy bridge, in 1644.[1]

His only ſon and heir Sir Oliver, bart. was of Berham-court, and left a ſon Philip, and a daughter Joane, who married Chriſtopher Rhodes, eſq.

Sir Philip Boteler, bart. the ſon, reſided at Berham-court, and married in 1690 Anne, daughter of Sir Edward Deſbouverie, of Cheſhunt, in Hertfordſhire, by whom he had one ſon and heir, Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Berham-court, which afterwards dropped that name, and acquired the name of *Teſton-houſe*. He was a gentleman of a moſt amiable diſpoſition and politeneſs of manners, whoſe benevolence and goodneſs of heart made him univerſally reſpected and beloved by all who knew him. He died at Teſton in 1772, where he was buried. He married Elizabeth, only daughter and heir of Thomas Williams, eſq. of Cabalva, in Radnorſhire, by whom he had an only daughter Elizabeth, who died unmarried in his life-time, æt. 15. By his will he gave one moiety of all his eſtates, both

[1] Clarendon's Hiſt. of Rebellion, vol. ii. p. 386.

real and perſonal, without any ſpecific allotment, to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, and the other moiety to Elizabeth, viſcounteſs dowager Folkeſtone, and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor, ſince deceaſed. They by private agreement made a partition of theſe eſtates, in which Teſton manor and advowſon, and the houſe, formerly called Berham-place, were, among others allotted to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton above-mentioned, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of Teſton-houſe, with the park, gardens and lands belonging to it, which by her improvements has become a moſt elegant reſidence, and an ornament to the adjacent country.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie is deſcended from Laurence de Bouverie, or Des Bouveries, of an antient extraction in Flanders, who renouncing the Romiſh religion, came into England in 1567. His grandſon, Edward Deſbouverie, was knighted in 1684, and died at his ſeat at Cheſhunt, in 1694, leaving by Anne his wife, daughter and coheir of Jacob de la Forterie, of London, ſeveral ſons and daughters. Of whom William, the eldeſt ſon, was created a baronet in 1713, and was anceſtor to the preſent earl of Radnor; and Chriſtopher, the youngeſt ſon was knighted, and was of Chart Sutton, in this county, and left by Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heir of Ralph Freeman, eſq. of Beechworth, in Surry, two ſons; Freeman, who died *ſ. p.* in 1734, æt. 20, and John, heir to his brother, who died on his travels in Aſia, *ſ. p.* in 1750, æt. 29, and two daughters; Anne, married to John Harvey, eſq. of Beechworth, and Elizabeth, deviſee of the moiety of Sir Philip Boteler's eſtates. Of Sir Edward Deſbouverie's daughters, Anne married Sir Philip Boteler, bart. and was aunt to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie abovementioned. Mrs. Bouverie bears for her arms, firſt, *Bouverie, party per feſs or and argent, an Imperial eagle ſable*; ſecond, *Bouverie again, gules, a bend vaire quartered*

tered with Forterie, Frebody, Marſh, Laurence, and others.[m]

There are no *parochial charities.*

This pariſh is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a ſmall, but neat building, with a ſquare tower at the weſt end. In it are ſeveral monuments of the family of Boteler.

Robert de Crevequer, at the time of his founding the priory of Leeds, in 1119, gave to it all the churches of his eſtates, among which was this of Teſton, with ſixteen acres of land in the pariſh, together with all their cuſtoms, goods, liberties and privileges.[n]

Walter, biſhop of Rocheſter, in the reign of king Stephen, appropriated this church, and Lamberhurſt, to the above-mentioned priory, on the petition of Daniel de Crevequer; and he received the prior and canons into the parſonages, and inſtituted the canons parſons canonically in thoſe churches.

After which a vicarage was endowed here by the prior and convent, with a reſervation of twenty ſhillings yearly penſion to themſelves out of it; which penſion, on the diſſolution of the priory in the reign of king Henry VIII. came into the hands of the crown, and was ſoon afterwards granted by that king, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, to his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, who are now entitled to it.

But the parſonage, together with the advowſon of the vicarage, remained in the hands of the crown in the reign of king Charles I whence the ſame was

[m] Pedigree of Deſbouverie, in the poſſeſſion of the earl of Radnor.

[n] See the confirmations of it in Regiſt. of Leeds priory. Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 110, &c. Reg. Roff. p. 211.

granted to Sir William Boteler, bart. from whom it deſcended to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. who died poſſeſſed of it in 1772, ſince which it has paſſed by his will, in like manner as Teſton manor and houſe, to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, the preſent poſſeſſor of the parſonage and advowſon of the vicarage of Teſton.

This vicarage is now a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-ſeven pounds, the yearly tenths of which are thirteen ſhillings.

CHURCH OF TESTON.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
Sir William Boteler, bart.	..... *Froſt*, in 1630.[o]
	Oliver North, A. M. 1642, reſigned 1663.[p]
	Roger Bankes, in 1682.
	Henry Cornwallis, in 1683.
	John Richards, A. M.[q]
	William Johnſon, obt. 1761.
	Duncan Menzies, A. M. inſtit. 1761, obt. Sept. 27, 1781.[r]
	James Ramſey, obt. 1789.[s]
	John Kennedy, 1789, the preſent vicar.

[o] He was no graduate.

[p] He reſigned this vicarage for that of Yalding, and dying in 1765, was buried in Yalding church.

[q] And rector of Nettleſted. He afterwards went diſtracted.

[r] At the ſame time he was preſented to the rectory of Nettleſted.

[s] Rector of Nettleſted likewiſe by diſpenſation as is his ſucceſſor. See his life in Encyclopædia Brit. drawn up by his nephew Mr. Walker.

WEST FARLEIGH.

SOUTHWARD from Teſton, on the oppoſite ſide of the river Medway, lies the pariſh of Weſt Farleigh, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from the adjoining one of Eaſt Farleigh.

It is called in Domeſday, FERLAGA, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, FEARNLEGA, and moſt probably took its

its name from the paſſage over the river Medway at one, or both of theſe pariſhes, *Fare* in Saxon ſignifying a journey or paſſage, and *lega*, a place, i e. the place of the way or paſſage.

The borſholder of the borough of Weſt Farleigh is choſen at the court leet of that manor, and does not owe ſervice to the court leet of the hundred; nor do the inhabitants of that borough owe any ſervice to that court; but at that court there may be choſen a conſtable of that hundred out of this borough.

Part of the pariſh of Weſt Farleigh is held of the manor of Newington near Sittingborne, in *free ſocage tenure*, by certain freeholders, at different yearly rents.

THIS PARISH is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſouthern ſide of the Medway, on the ſide of a hill declining towards the river; its northern boundary, the meadows, on the bank of which, abounding with large and ſpreading oaks, as does the whole pariſh, contributing greatly to the grandeur and beauty of the ſcene. The ſoil of it is much the ſame as that of the adjoining pariſh of Eaſt Farleigh, and is equally fertile in corn, fruit, and hops, of which there are many plantations. The high road acroſs the Medway over Teſton bridge, aſcends the hill through the village, in which is Smith's hall, a handſome well-built ſeat, and the vicarage, both of them having a fine view of the valley and river, Mereworth, and Teſton-houſe and park, on the oppoſite hill. About a quarter of a mile eaſtward is the ſmall hamlet of Farleigh-green, and at the lower edge of the hill, not far from the river the church and the court-lodge, Mr. Stephen Amhurſt's, where there is a pretty ſteep deſcent of graſs and meadow lands to the bank of the river, and the bridge acroſs it to Barmjet. On the oppoſite ſide of the village, at no great diſtance, are the ruins of the manſion of Tutſham, which was pleaſantly ſituated on a riſe above the river, and encircled with ſtately oaks, and its canals plentifully ſupplied by a ſmall ſwiftly running brook, called the Ewell, from

from its rising near the manor of that name, in the eastern part of this parish, and which here falls into the Medway. The house was pulled down a few years ago, when the improvements were made at Teston-house, and the ruins left as an object in the prospect from it. From the village of Farleigh, the high road continues down to Yalding, and thence to the Weald and Sussex. Another road from the village, the ground still rising, leads to Cocks-heath, and the summit of the quarry-hill above Burston, where the district of the Weald begins. In the south east part of the parish there is much coppice wood.

In the woods in this neighbourhood there grows Cyclamen Europæum, *sowbread*, although Gerarde says, he could not learn that this plant grew any where in England, and Mr. Raye and Mr. Hudson have entirely omitted it in their catalogue of British plants.[t]

Aristolochia Clematitis, *climbing birthwort*, grows in the woods between this place and Maidstone.[u]

This place, soon after the conquest, was given by William the Conqueror to Odo, bishop of Baieux, his half-brother, under the general title of whose lands, it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday, taken in that king's reign:

Ranulf de Columbels holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Ferlaga. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is four carucates. Rannulf does not hold more than three yokes, and he has there in demesne one carucate, and ten villeins, with four cottagers, having three carucates. There is a church, and seven servants, and one mill of five shillings, and ten acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of fifteen hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, and now it is worth seven pounds. Alnod held it of king Edward.

[t] Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 845.
[u] Hudson's Flora Anglica, vol. ii. p. 394.

Of

Of this ſuling, Rayner holds one yoke of the biſhop in the manor of Pimpe, and he has there one carucate, with nine ſervants and three acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of four hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth twenty ſhillings, now forty ſhillings. Alnod Cilt held it of king Edward.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, about the year 1084, this manor, with the reſt of his poſſeſſions, became confiſcated to the crown; whence it ſeems to have been granted by the Conqueror to Robert, ſon of Hamon de Crevequer, whoſe deſcendant, Robert de Crevequer afterwards held it as a member of the manor of Chatham. He took part with the rebellious barons againſt the king; upon which this manor was ſeized, among the reſt of his eſtates; and though it appears that he was afterwards reſtored to the king's favor, yet he never regained poſſeſſion of the manor of Weſt Farleigh, which ſeems to have remained in the hands of the crown, till king Edward I. gave it to Eleanor his queen, who, in the 18th year of that reign, made a gift of it, with other premiſes, to the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, in exchange for the port of Sandwich.[w]

King Edward II. in his 10th year, granted to the prior of Chriſt-church, *free-warren* in all their demeſne lands, which he poſſeſſed here in the time of his grandfather, or at any time ſince.[x]

This manor continued part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Chriſt-church till its diſſolution, in the 31ſt year of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, who that year granted this manor, among other premiſes, to Sir Thomas Wyatt, to hold *in capite*, but his ſon of the ſame name having raiſed

[w] Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 22. Tan. Mon. p. 201.
[x] Regiſter of Chriſt-church, charter 134.

a rebel-

a rebellion in the 1ſt year of queen Mary, was attainted, and his eſtates were forfeited to the crown;[y] and the queen, by her letters patent, in her ſecond year, granted this manor to Sir John Baker, her attorney-general,[z] to hold by the like ſervice. In his deſcendants it continued down to Sir John Baker, bart. of Siſinghurſt, who alienated it ſoon after the death of Charles I. to Mr. Robert Newton, grocer, of London, who conveyed it to Auguſtine Hodges, gent. and he ſold it in the reign of king Charles II. to John Amhurſt, eſq. of Eaſt Farleigh court-lodge, who by will in 1711 deviſed it to his brother, Nicholas Amhurſt, gent. of Weſt Barming, and his grandſon, Stephen Amhurſt, eſq. is the preſent proprietor of it, and reſides in the manor-houſe.

SMITH'S-HALL is a ſeat in this pariſh, to which the Brewers, a family who had reſided at Brewer's place, in Mereworth, for many generations, removed in the reign of king Henry VI. and which afterwards branched off to Boxley and Ditton, both in this neighbourhood.[a] They bore for their arms, *Gules, three bends wavy or, a canton vaire, argent and azure.*

Of this family was Wm. de Brewer, who was lieutenant of Dover-caſtle under king John, as appears by the ſpecial *præcipe* directed to him from that king, to deliver this then important fortreſs to Hubert de Burgh, lord warden of the cinque ports.[b]

This ſeat continued the reſidence of this family to Thomas Brewer, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of it in 1690, and was buried in this church, whoſe ſecond wife Anne, was daughter of Richard Kilburne, eſq. of Hawkhurſt, the Kentiſh topographer, by whom he had ſeveral

[y] See more of the Wyatts under Allington, vol. iv. p. 451.
[z] See more of the Bakers, under Cranbrooke. See alſo Eaſt Farleigh, vol. iv. p. 375.
[a] See MSS. in the Britiſh Muſeum, No. 2230.
[b] Rot. 17, Joh. memb. 2, N. 102. Philipott, p. 150.

children.

children. His eldeſt ſon, John Brewer, eſq. of Smith's hall, died in 1724, leaving by Jane his wife, an only daughter and heir, Jane, who was twice married; firſt to John Carney, eſq. and ſecondly to John Shrimpton, eſq. both of whom ſhe ſurvived, and again poſſeſſed this ſeat, where ſhe reſided in her own right. She died here *ſ. p.* in 1762, having by her will deviſed this ſeat, with the reſt of her eſtates, to her kinſman John Davis, D. D. rector of Hamſey, in Suſſex, whoſe mother was daughter of Thomas Brewer, eſq. above-mentioned, by his ſecond wife, daughter of Richard Kilburne, of Hawkhurſt, and he died poſſeſſed of it in 1766, and was buried in Canterbury cathedral, of which church he was a prebendary. He left iſſue one ſon John and three daughters, of whom Elizabeth the eldeſt, married Henry Pratt, eſq. late of Harbledown, Jane the ſecond, died unmarried in 1768, and Anne, the youngeſt, married Robert Knipe, eſq. of London. John Davis, eſq. the ſon, was afterwards knighted, and married the ſecond daughter of Dr. Tatterſal, rector of Streatham, in Surry. He ſold this ſeat in 1774 to William Perrin, eſq. who reſided at Smith's hall, where he kept his ſhrievalty for this county in 1776, bearing for his arms, *Gules, three creſcents argent*, and he is the preſent owner, and at times reſides in it.

THE MANOR OF TOTESHAM-HALL, uſually called *Tutſham*, in this pariſh, was antiently the reſidence of a family, who aſſumed their ſurname from it.

John de Toteſham was one of the *recognitores magnæ aſſiſæ*, or judges of the great aſſize in the reign of king John, as appears by the pipe rolls of that reign, and bore for his arms, *Gules, within a bordure a croſs argent, between twelve billets of the laſt*; as appears by his ſeal appendant to a deed in the Dering library.

From him this manor and eſtate deſcended in a direct line to Anthony Toteſham, eſq. who about the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. alienated Toteſham, with an appendage to it, called Henhurſt,[c] to

[c] In Yelding, where ſee a further account of it.

Thomas

Thomas Chapman, gent. one of the grooms of the king's chamber, in whoſe name they ſtaid till the middle of queen Elizabeth's reign, when they were ſold to John Laurence, eſq. captain of Tilbury fort, who by Anne, one of the two daughters and coheirs of Robert Gidding, eſq. left a ſon and heir, Edward Laurence, eſq. who was of Toteſham-hall, and died in 1605. His heirs joined in the ſale of this manor, to Auguſtine Skynner, eſq. of Devonſhire, the younger brother of Richard, of Columpton, in that county, of a family who bore for their arms, *Ermine, three lozenges ſable, in each a fleur de lis or.*[d] He, on this purchaſe, removed into Kent, and reſided at Toteſham-hall.

Auguſtine Skynner, his eldeſt ſon, reſided likewiſe at Toteſham-hall, where he died in 1672, without ſurviving iſſue, and was buried here. Sometime after his deceaſe, his heirs alienated this manor and ſeat, with the manor of Ewell in this pariſh, and other eſtates in the adjoining pariſhes, to Edward Goulſton, eſq. who afterwards reſided at Tutſham, and bore for his arms, *Barry, nebulee of ſix argent and gules, over all a bend ſable, charged with three plates.* He died in 1720, *ſ. p.* and was buried in this church, having by his will given them after his wife's death to her nephew, Francis Goulſton, ſon and heir apparent of Richard Goulſton, eſq. of Widdial, in Hertfordſhire. This family, of Widdial, was deſcended from Thomas Goulſton, of Wimondham, in Leiceſterſhire, whoſe grandſon John, ſon of William, was one of the prothonotaries of the common pleas in the reign of king James I.

James Goulſton, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, was of Widdial, and was father of Richard, and of Anne, the wife of Edward Goulſton, of Tutſham, as above mentioned. They bore the ſame coat of arms as thoſe of this county.

[d] See Viſitation of the county of Kent, 1619. Pedigree of Skynner.

She

She reſided at Tutſham after the death of her huſband, and dying in 1724, the property of theſe manors and eſtates became veſted in Francis Goulſton eſq. before-mentioned, of Widdial, who on his marriage in 1722, had ſettled the reverſion of them on Sarah his intended wife, and on their iſſue in tail male, with a power of revocation on his ſettling other eſtates, of as great value, in lieu of them. After which, in the 13th year of king George I. anno 1726, having contracted for the ſale of them with Sir Philip Boteler, bart. and the expreſſions in the above ſettlement being doubtful and ambiguous, an act of parliament was procured to enforce them, and the fee of them was conveyed to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. He died in 1772, *ſ. p.* and by will bequeathed one moiety of his eſtates to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton; and the other moiety to the viſcounteſs dowager Folkeſtone, and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor, both ſince deceaſed; and on a partition of his eſtates, theſe abovementioned were, among others, allotted to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, now of Teſton, the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

CHARITIES.

MRS. ANNE GOULSTON, in 1724, gave by will certain lands, the produce to be diſtributed yearly to the poor not receiving alms, veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers, and now, excepting repairs, of the annual produce of 14*l.*

THE REV. OLIVER NORTH, vicar, gave by will in 1725, to be diſtributed in like manner, land veſted in the vicar and pariſh officers, and now, excepting land-tax and repairs, of the annual produce of 8*l.*

WEST FARLEIGH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which ſtands near the court lodge, conſiſts of one iſle, and has a low pointed ſteeple. It is dedicated to All Saints. In it are monuments for the Brewers, Skinners, and Goulſtons, and in the ſouth wall

wall there is an antient tomb fixed in a receſs, and over it an arch engrailed, having at each corner a coat of arms; that towards the eaſt is obliterated, but the weſtern one, *a croſs within a bordure engrailed*, is ſtill viſible.

Robert de Crevequer, at the time of his founding the priory of Leeds in 1119, gave all the churches of his eſtates, among which was this of Weſt Farleigh, with all their cuſtoms, goods, liberties, and privileges, to that priory.[e]

William Corboil, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the reign of king Henry I. ſoon after the above-mentioned gift, granted that the canons there ſhould poſſeſs this church, and ſhould take the tithes of corn yearly, appropriated to them, and two parcels of land of the poſſeſſions of this church, *(duas culturas de tenemento)* of which, nevertheleſs, he decreed, that the vicar of it ſhould take the tithes yearly, when they ſhould be cultivated, ſaving, nevertheleſs, a third parcel, and all other appurtenances belonging to it, to the vicar ſerving in it, who ſhould be preſented by the prior of Leeds to the biſhop, ſaving to him epiſcopal right in all things.

This church, together with the advowſon of the vicarage, remained part of the poſſeſſions of the priory, till the diſſolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was confirmed to that king and his heirs, among the other eſtates of the priory, by the general words of the act paſſed in the 31ſt year of that reign. After which the king, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, ſettled both the parſonage, and advowſon of the vicarage, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom they now remain.

The leſſee of the parſonage is Mr. John Savage; but the dean and chapter reſerve the preſentation of the vicarage to themſelves.

[e] Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 110, &c. Reg. Roff. p. 211.

The

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6l. 10s. 5d. and the yearly tenths at 13s. 0½d.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. the poſſeſſions of the dean and chapter of Rocheſter in this pariſh, were ſurveyed in 1649, by order of the ſtate; by which it appeared that this parſonage conſiſted of all the tithes, &c. with a houſe, barns, &c. and gardens containing one rood, of the improved rent of ſeventy-four pounds, and alſo another barn and premiſes belonging to it, containing three roods and three perches, of the improved rent of five pounds per annum. All which were let anno 11 Charles I. to Thomas and John Wood, by the late dean and chapter, at the rent of 10l. 11s. 4d. ſo there remained clear the rent of 68l. 8s. 8d. per annum; that the vicarage was excepted out of the leaſe, and was worth thirty-five pounds per annum, and that the leſſee covenanted to repair the chancel, and to pay the accuſtomed penſion of 3l. 6s. 8d. to the vicar.

CHURCH OF WEST FARLEIGH.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter ...	*William Allen*, in 1597.
	Robert Feild, A. M. about 1630.[f]
	John Reve, 1636.[g]
	Edmund Hills, 1640.[h]
	Oliver North, 1720, obt. 1726.[i]
	John Davis, A. M. preſented 1726, obt. July 1776.[k]
	Robert Fountain, A. M. Nov. 1776, reſigned 1779.[l]
	Francis Taynton, A. M. 1779, obt. Nov. 14, 1794.[m]
	Tho. Weeks Dalby, A. M. 1794, the preſent vicar.[n]

f MSS. Twyſden.
g Reg. Roff. p. 888.
h Walker's Suff. of Clergy, p. 267.
i Alſo vicar of Eaſt Farleigh. He was a good benefactor to this vicarage, by the improvements he made to the houſe and gardens.
k And rector of Mereworth.
l He exchanged this vicarage, for that of Frindſbury, with his ſucceſſor.
m Likewiſe rector of Trotteſclive.
n And vicar of Chippenham, in Wiltſhire.

HUNTON.

SOUTHWARD from Weſt Farleigh lies the pariſh of Hunton, called more frequently in antient deeds *Huntington*.

A ſmall part of this pariſh, being of the antient demeſne of Aylesford, is in the hundred of Larkfield; another ſmall part is within the hundred of Maidſtone, the reſidue being in the borough of Hunton, is in the hundred of Twyford, which borough claims a court leet of itſelf, where the borſholder is choſen, and the inhabitants of it owe no ſervice to the court leet of the hundred, only at that court a conſtable for the hundred may be choſen out of this borough.

HUNTON lies on the ſide of the quarry hills, the ſummit of which above it is the northern boundary of this pariſh, as well as of the Weald, conſequently this pariſh lying below it, is within that diſtrict. The ſoil of it about the hill partakes of the quarry or rag ſtone, thinly covered with a loam or red earth, below which it changes to a ſtiff clay. Upon the hill adjoining to Cocks-heath there is a range of coppice wood along it, below which, midway down the hill is the ſeat of Burſton, having a fine view ſouthward over the Weald; the right wing of it is built of brick, ornamented with ſtone, and ſeems to be of the time of queen Elizabeth, the reſt of it is much more modern. The whole ſeems approaching to haſty ruin, being uninhabited, the houſe, where the farmer inhabits, being built adjoining to it. There was *a park* round this ſeat, incloſed about king James the Iſt.'s reign, which has been *diſparked* ſome years, and converted into a farm. At a little diſtance eaſtward is the parſonage, a good houſe much improved by the preſent biſhop of London, who made it his ſummer reſidence whilſt rector of this pariſh, it is now in like manner inhabited by the preſent rector,

lord

lord George Murray. Juſt below it is the ſeat called GENNINGS, formerly the property of one Snatt, who ſold it to Sir Walter Roberts, bart. of Glaſſenbury, who rebuilt the houſe on his death in 1745; his only daughter and heir Jane, carried this ſeat in marriage to George, duke of St. Alban's. She died *ſ. p.* in 1778, having diſpoſed of it by her will to Miſs Davies, who after the duke's death poſſeſſed it, and ſold it to the lady dowager Twyſden, the preſent owner of it. At a ſmall diſtance lower down is the church, and ſtill further, about a quarter of a mile eaſtward the village, called Hunton-ſtreet, cloſe to the paſſage over the river at Hunton Clappers, being a principal ſtream of the river Medway, which here directs its courſe along the ſouthern boundary of this pariſh, being increaſed in its courſe here by ſeveral ſprings, which riſe in the upper part of it, and join together the main river at the adjoining pariſh of Yalding. That part of this pariſh below the hill, from the nature of its deep clay ſoil, is very miry in wet weather, whilſt, like the reſt of the Weald, in hot and dry weather, it becomes a hard cakey or panny ſurface, which reſiſts every impreſſion; of courſe the opportunity for the tillage of it, whilſt in an intermediate ſtate, muſt not be neglected, leſt the poſſibility of a ſeaſon be loſt. It is very kindly for wheat, of which it produces, eſpecially when manured with marle or chalk, which is brought from the further ridge of hills, at nine or ten miles diſtance, very good crops, of near three ſeams an acre; the whole of it abounds with broad hedge rows, in which are numbers of fine ſpreading oaks of a large ſize, which though very profitable to the owner, are exceeding prejudicial to the occupier and his crops of corn. To the ſight this country is a beautiful proſpect, but to the traveller and reſident, it is in wet weather almoſt impaſſable, and in the drought of ſummer from the heat ariſing from the ſoil, the reflection of the ſun beams, and the quantity of large buzzing flies which continually aſſault you from

their haunts among the oak branches, it is moſt diſagreeable and unpleaſant to the extreme, the only exception being when you are ſtationary under the thick ſhade of a ſpreading oak.

In the year 1683 there was found, at the opening of a piece of ground to enlarge a pond, near Mr. Hatley's houſe in this pariſh, at ſix yards deep, a hard floor of *ſtratum*, compoſed of ſhells, or petrifactions like them, crowded cloſely together, the interſtices of which were filled up with marle. This layer was about an inch deep, and ſeveral yards over. Theſe ſhells were of the ſort called *conchites*, and reſembled ſea fiſh of the teſtaceous kind; moſt of them were turbinated or wreathed, the reſt were of the bivalvular ſort; none of them with their valves cloſed together, but ſingle. This *ſtratum*, when expoſed to the air and grown hard, appeared much like the coarſe ſort of marble, compoſed of ſuch ſhell-like petrifactions, with marle mixed betwixt them, as is dug up about Betherſden, Pluckley, &c. in the Weald of Kent, and about Petworth, in Suſſex. Upon enquiry, no inſtance was known of the river Medway's having, in any floods, reached ſo far as this place.*

THE MANOR of Huntington, alias Hunton, was part of the antient poſſeſſions of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, and was ſoon after the time of the Conqueror held of the archbiſhop of Canterbury by knight's ſervice, by a family of the name of Lenham, who were afterwards proprietors of another manor in this pariſh, called Benſtede.

The latter of theſe manors, at the time of taking the ſurvey of Domeſday, about the year 1080, was part of the poſſeſſions of Odo, biſhop of Baieux and earl of Kent, the Conqueror's half-brother, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in it:

* Philoſophical Tranſactions, vol. xiv. No. 155, p. 463.

Adehold

Adebold held Benedeſtede of the biſhop (of Baieux) and Robert held it to ferme. It was taxed at one yoke. The arable land is . . . . In demeſne there is one carucate, with five ſervants, and one acre of meadow. Wood for the pannage of ſix hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards it was worth twenty ſhillings, now forty ſhillings. Godric held it of Alnod Cilt.

The above-mentioned manor, on the biſhop's diſgrace about four years afterwards, was ſeized on, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions, and was granted to one of the family of Crevequer, of whom it was held by proprietors, who, in all likelihood, aſſumed their ſurname from it.

John de Benſtede held this manor as one fourth part of a knight's fee, in the reign of king Henry III. of the barony of Crevequer ;[p] at the latter end of which reign, he alienated it to Nicholas de Lenham, who at that time held likewiſe the manor of Hunton, for which, in the 41ſt year of it, he obtained a charter of free warren, a market on a Tueſday weekly, and a yearly fair to continue five days, viz. *the vigil, the day of the aſſumption of our Lady*, and three days afterwards.

In the above year there was a fine levied between Nicholas, prior of Chriſt-church, and Nicholas de Lenham, of an annual rent of ſix pounds of this manor of Huntington.[q]

His deſcendant, William de Lenham, leaving an only daughter and heir Alianor; ſhe carried both theſe manors in marriage to John de Gyfford, who paid aid for them in the 20th year of king Edward III. and died poſſeſſed of them in the 22d year of the above reign; ſoon after which they were ſold by his heirs to William, ſecond ſon of John de Clinton, who was afterwards knighted, and was a perſon of eminent worth.

[p] Book of Knights fees in the Exchequer.

[q] Regiſter of Chriſt Church, cart. 2027.

He married Juliana, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas de Leyborne, commonly ſtiled from her great poſſeſſions, *the Infanta of Kent*; which was in great meaſure the means of his future honor and preferments, of which he had many conferred on him; and ſtanding ſtill high in the king's favor, he was, in the 11th year of that reign, advanced to the title of earl of Huntingdon.[r] He died anno 28 king Edward III. *ſ. p.* poſſeſſed of the manor of Huntington, alias Hunton, with Benſted; Sir John de Clinton, lord Clinton, ſon of John, his eldeſt brother, being found, by the inquiſition to be his next heir, who paid relief in the 4th year of king Henry IV. at the marriage of Blanch, that prince's daughter, for this manor, with Benſted, and in the 6th year of it, he had poſſeſſion granted of his part of the lands of William de Say, as heir to him by his grandmother Idonea; whereupon he bore the title of lord Clinton and Say, and was afterwards accordingly ſummoned to parliament. His ſon, John, lord Clinton, in the 27th year of king Henry VI. releaſed to his kinſman, Sir James Fienes, then lord Say and Seal, and his heirs, the title of lord Say, which he claimed a right to, and the arms likewiſe, by reaſon of that title.

In his deſcendants this manor and eſtate continued down to Edward, lord Clinton,[s] who in Henry VIIIth's reign, alienated them to Sir Thomas Wyatt, but his ſon, Sir Thomas Wyatt, having raiſed a rebellion againſt queen Mary, was attainted in the 1ſt year of her reign, by which all his eſtates became forfeited to the crown; and the queen, by her letters patent, in her 2d year, granted this manor, with Benſted, to Sir John Baker, her attorney-general, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice.[t] In whoſe deſcendants they continued down to

[r] Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 530 et ſeq. Rot. Eſch. ejus an.
[s] See more of the family of Clintons under Folkeſtone.
[t] Dalton's Reports, Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 1.

Sir

Sir John Baker, bart. of Sisinghurst, who possessed them in the reign of king Charles II. he sold them to Mr. Clarke, of Boughton, who left the manor of Hunton by his last will to Mr. Thomas Turner, of this parish, for his life, remainder to his own brother, of whom Mr. Turner, having purchased the reversion of it, and dying *s. p.* gave it by will to his nephew Mr. Thomas Turner, of Hunton, who died possessed of it in 1776, leaving by his wife, daughter of Mr. Durrant, one son and four daughters; of whom Mary married the Rev. Thomas Verrier Alkin, late vicar of Lenham; Anne married the Rev. John Ward, rector and vicar of Yalding; and the other two are single, which son before-mentioned is the present Thomas Turner, who now owns and resides in it.

A court-baron is held for this manor.

But BENSTED, now called BENSTEDDLE, the scite of which at present consists only of a parcel of land, with a ruinated house on it, passed by sale from Clarke to Bartholomew, in which name it descended down to Leonard Bartholomew, esq. of Oxenhoath, who died in 1757, *s. p.* since which it is at length by his will in like manner as that seat, become the property of Sir William Geary, bart. who owns besides a considerable estate in this parish.

At the south side of the chancel of this church, was once a tomb for one of the noble family of Clinton, possessors of this manor, whose seat, called the *Court-lodge*, near the church, has been long ruinated; but the scite of it, as well as the moat which surrounded it, are still visible.

BURSTON is a manor in this parish, the name of which Kilburne says, was antiently *Buston*, alias *Burricestune*, alias *Burregicestune*; however that may be, it was antiently eminent for being the residence of a family, which took their surname of Burston from it.

John de Burston is mentioned in the dateless deeds, relating to this family, which, from the probable con-

jecture of the hand writing are ſuppoſed to be of the time of king Henry III. at which time there was land about Wye and Crundall, in this county, which belonged to this family; for in the 45th year of the above reign, Sir Waretius de Valoignes, releaſed to John de Burſton his title to lands in thoſe pariſhes. In his deſcendants Burſton remained for many generations, and it appears, that they were eſteemed among the antient gentry of this county; for Gervas Clifton, ſheriff of Kent in the 29th year of king Henry VI. returned William Burſton, then poſſeſſor of this manor, among thoſe who had a right to bear the antient coat armour of their anceſtors, their arms being *Quarterly, argent and ſable, on a bend gules, three griffins heads eraſed or.*

In the reign of king Henry VIII. alderman Head, of London, reſided here, and made additions to the houſe; but he ſeems to have poſſeſſed it only for a term of years; for the fee continued in the name of Burſton, by one of whom it was alienated, in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, to Sir Thomas Fane, ſecond ſon of George Fane, eſq. of Badſell, in Tudeley, who was afterwards of Burſton, knight, and was lieutenant of Dover-caſtle. He died without ſurviving iſſue in 1606.

By his will he gave this manor and ſeat, among the reſt of his eſtates, to Sir George Fane, ſecond ſon of Sir Thomas Fane, of Badſell, by his wife Mary, baroneſs le Deſpencer, who after the death of his uncle reſided at Burſton. In the 18th year of king James I. he was choſen to repreſent this county in parliament, and in the 21ſt year of it kept his ſhrievalty at Burſton. He was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Thomas Fane, eſq. who was of Burſton, and taking to a military life, became a colonel in the army. He died unmarried here in 1692, and was buried with his anceſtors in this church, having by his will given this manor and ſeat, among the reſt of his eſtates, to Mildmay Fane, the 7th and youngeſt ſon of Vere Fane, earl of Weſtmoreland, then

then but two years old, intending by it, that this manor and that title, ſhould never be poſſeſſed by the ſame perſon. He afterwards reſided at Mereworth caſtle, and died unmarried in 1715, and was ſucceeded in this manor and ſeat, as well as the reſt of his eſtates, by Thomas, earl of Weſtmoreland, his eldeſt ſurviving brother, who dying as well as his younger and only ſurviving brother John, earl of Weſtmoreland, *ſ. p.* the latter in 1762, this manor and ſeat, together with the reſt of his eſtates in this county, are come by the limitations of his will in like manner as Mereworth, to the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of them.

There are no *parochial charities.*

HUNTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and being a *peculiar* of the archbiſhop, is as ſuch in the *deanry* of Shoreham.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary. In it there is a monument and memorials of the family of Fane, of Burſton, of alderman Head, mentioned before, and for one of the family of Clinton, and there was in Philipott's time, in one of the windows of it, the effigies of two of the lords Clinton, owners of this manor.

It is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 16l. 13s. 1½d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 13s. 3½d.

His grace the archbiſhop is *patron* of this church.

CHURCH OF HUNTON.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
The Archbiſhop of Canterbury	*Theophilus Higgons*, A. M. ſequeſtered about 1643.[u]
	... ,. *Latham*, ejected 1662.[w]
	Thomas Yardley, 1680.[x]
	Richard Burton, 1691.[x]

[u] Walker's Suff. of Clergy, pt. ii. p. 266. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 240.

[w] Ejected by the Bartholomew act.

[x] Reg. Roff. p. 874. Calamy's Life of Baxter, p. 286.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	RECTORS.
The Archbiſhop of Canterbury	*George Fagg*, A. M. 1713, obt. Sept. 8, 1728.[y]
	Herbert Taylor, 1728, obt. Sept. 29, 1763.[z]
	John Fowel, S. T. P. 1763, reſigned 1765.[a]
	Beilby Porteus, S. T. P. 1765, vacated 1788.[b]
	Rt. Hon. Lord George Murray, the preſent rector.

y Alſo vicar of Marden and preb. of Litchfield. Willis's Cath. vol. i. p. 467. He lies buried in this church.

z And vicar of Patrickſborne, in 1753, by diſpenſation.

a And ſinecure rector of Eynsford, in 1763. In 1764 rector of Chartham likewiſe by diſpenſation, in 1765; he reſigned this vicarage for Biſhopſborne with Barham, which he now holds.

b And prebendary of Peterborough, and in 1767 preſented to the rectory of Lambeth, which he reſigned in 1777, on being conſecrated biſhop of Cheſter, which he held with this rectory, *in commendam*. Now biſhop of London.

YALDING.

NORTH-WESTWARD from Hunton lies Yalding, antiently written *Ealding*, which ſignifies the antient meadow or low ground.

Moſt of this pariſh is in the hundred of Twyford, and the reſt of it, viz. the borough of Rugmerhill, is in the antient demeſne of Aylesford. That part of this pariſh, which holds of the manor of Weſt Farleigh, is in the borough of Weſt Farleigh, and the borſholder thereof ought to be choſen at the court leet there, and ſo much thereof as is held of the manor of Hunton, is in the borough of Hunton, and the borſholder thereof is choſen at the court leet there; and the inhabitants of neither of theſe boroughs owe ſervice to the court holden for the hundred of Twyford, within which hundred they both are; but at that court a conſtable for that hundred may be choſen out of either of theſe boroughs.

THIS

THIS PARISH lying ſouthward of the quarry hills, is within the diſtrict of the Weald. It is but narrow, but extends full four miles in length from north to ſouth, the upper or northern part reaches up to the quarry hill adjoining to Weſt Farleigh, near which is Yalding down, on which is a large kiln for the purpoſe of burning pit coal into coke, which is effected by laying the coal under earth, and when ſet on fire quenching the cinders; the method is uſed in making charcoal from wood, the former particularly is much uſed in the oaſts for the drying of hops, ſo profitably encouraged in this neighbourhood. Below it, near the river Medway, its weſtern boundary in this part, oppoſite to Nettleſted, ſtands the ſeat of Sir John Gregory Shaw, bart. a retired, but not an ill choſen ſituation. It was for ſeveral generations the reſidence of the family of Kinward, which from the reign of king Henry VIII. was poſſeſſed of good eſtates in this pariſh and its neighbourhood, and bore for their arms, *Azure, on a bend or, three roſes gules, between three croſs-croſlets, fitchee argent.* Robert Kenward, eſq. of Yalding, reſided here, and dying in 1720, was buried with the reſt of his family in this church; he left a ſon John, and ſeveral daughters, of whom the third, Martha, married the late Sir Gregory Page, bart. and died *ſ. p.* John Kenward, eſq. the ſon, died in 1749, leaving by Alicia his wife, youngeſt daughter of Francis Brooke, eſq. of Rocheſter, one daughter and heir Alicia, who carried this ſeat and a conſiderable eſtate in this neighbourhood to Sir John Shaw, bart. late of Eltham, whoſe eldeſt ſon, Sir John Gregory Shaw, bart. is the preſent owner of it, and reſides here.[s] In this part of the pariſh the land is kindly both for corn and hops, of which there are ſeveral plantations, and round the down there are ſome rich graſs lands, but further ſouthward where the pariſh extends to Brenchley, Horſemonden, and Mar-

[s] See Eltham, vol. i. of this hiſtory, p. 468.

den,

den, it is rather a forlorn country, the land lying very low, and the ſoil is exceeding wet and miry, and much of it very poor, and greatly ſubject to ruſhes, being a ſtiff unfertile clay; the hedge rows are broad and interſperſed with quantities of large ſpreading oak trees.

The river Medway flows from Tunbridge along the weſt ſide of the upper part of this pariſh as mentioned before, there are acroſs it here two bridges, Twyford and Brandt bridge, leading hither from Watringbury, Nettleſted and Eaſt Peckham; a ſmall ſtream, which comes from Marden, and is here called the Twiſt, flows through the lower part of this pariſh towards the weſt ſide of it, and joins the main river at Twyford bridge, which extends over both of them; another larger ſtream being a principal head of the Medway flowing from Style-bridge by Hunton clappers, ſeparating theſe two pariſhes, joins the main river, about a quarter of a mile below Twyford bridge; on the conflux of theſe two larger ſtreams the town of Yalding is ſituated, having a long narrow ſtone bridge of communication from one part of the town to the other, on the oppoſite bank of the Hunton ſtream. Leland who lived in king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign, calls it a *a praty townelet*, to which however at preſent it has no pretenſions. The church and court-lodge ſtand at the north end of the town. A fair is held in it on Whit-Monday, and on October 15, yearly. The high road over Teſton bridge, and through Weſt Farleigh, leads through the town, and thence ſouthward along the hamlets of Denover and Collens-ſtreet to Marden; at a ſmall diſtance from the former is the borough of Rugmarhill, eſteemed to be within the antient demeſne of Aylesford, belonging to Mrs. Milner.

Adjoining the town ſouthward is Yalding lees, over which there is another high road, which leads from Twyford bridge, parallel with the other before-mentioned, along the hamlet of Lodingford, and thence through the lower part of this pariſh towards Brenchley,

near

near the boundaries of which in this pariſh is an eſtate ſtill called *Oldlands*, which appears in king Edward II's reign to have been part of the demeſne lands of the manor of Yalding, for he then confirmed to the priory of Tunbridge a rent charge to be received out of the aſſerts of *the old and new lands* of the late Richard de Clare, in Dennemanneſbrooke, which he had given to it on its foundation; lower down, cloſe to the ſtream of the Twiſt, is the manor houſe of Bockingfold, the lands of which extend acroſs the river into Brenchley and Horſemonden and other pariſhes.

A third high road over Brandt bridge paſſes along the weſtern bounds of this pariſh, over Betſurn-green towards Lamberhurſt and Suſſex.

A new commiſſion of ſewers under the great ſeal, was not many years ago obtained to ſcour and cleanſe that branch of the river Medway, or if I may ſo call it, *the Yalding river* from Goldwell in Great Chart, through Smarden, Hunton, and other intermediate pariſhes to its junction with the Rain river, at a place called Stickmouth, a little below the town of Yalding.

The commiſſioners for the navigation of the river Medway, about twenty years ago, made a navigable cut or canal, from a place in the river called Hampſted, where they judiciouſly conſtructed a lock to a place in the river near Twyford bridge, where they erected a tumbling bay for the water, when at a certain height, to paſs over. The contrivance of this cut from one bend or angle of the river to the other, is of the greateſt utility to the navigation, by not only ſhortening the paſſage, but by baying up a convenient depth of water, which they could not have had along the lees, and other adjoining low lands on each ſide of that part of the river, which is avoided by it, or at leaſt not without a very great expence.

At the river here the barges are loaded with timber, great guns, bullets, &c. for Chatham and Sheerneſs docks, London, and other parts, and bring back coals,

and

and other commodities for the ſupply of the neighbouring country.

In 1757 a large eel was caught in the river here, which meaſured five feet nine inches in length, and eighteen inches in girt, and weighed upwards of forty pounds.

THE MANOR OF YALDING, or *Ealding*, as it was uſually written, was, after the conqueſt, part of the poſſeſſions of the eminent family of Clare, who became afterwards earls of Glouceſter and Hertford,[4] the anceſtor of whom, Richard Fitz Gilbert, came into England with William the Conqueror, and gave him great aſſiſtance in the memorable battle of Haſtings, and in reſpect of his near alliance in blood to the king, he was advanced to great honor, and had large poſſeſſions beſtowed upon him, both in Normandy and England; among the latter was this eſtate of Yalding, as appears from the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken in the 15th year of the Conqueror's reign, in which it is thus entered, under the title of *Terra Ricardi F. Giſlebti*:

Richard de Tonebridge holds Ealdinges, and Aldret held it of king Edward, and then and now it was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is ſixteen carucates. There are two churches (viz. Yalding and Brenchley) and fifteen ſervants, and two mills of twenty-five ſhillings, and four fiſheries of one thouſand and ſeven hundred eels, all but twenty. There are five acres of paſture, and wood for the pannage of one hundred and fifty hogs.

In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth thirty pounds, now twenty pounds, on account of the lands lying waſte to that amount.

The above-mentioned Richard Fitz Gilbert, at the latter end of the Conqueror's reign, was uſually called Richard de Tonebridge, from his poſſeſſions and reſidence there, and his deſcendants took the name of Clare, for the like reaſon of their poſſeſſing that honor.

[4] See a more ample account of them under Tunbridge.

His

His deſcendant, Gilbert, ſon of Richard de Clare, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, owned it in the reign of king Henry III. and in the 21ſt year of Edward I. he claimed before the juſtices itinerant, and was allowed all the privileges of a manor.

Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, his ſon, by Joane, of Acres, king Edward I.'s daughter, ſucceeded to it, and dying in the 7th year of king Edward II. without ſurviving iſſue, his three ſiſters became his coheirs, and on the partition of their inheritance, this manor, among others in this county, was allotted to Margaret, the ſecond ſiſter, then wife of Hugh de Audley, junior, who in the 12th year of Edward II. obtained for his manor of Ealding, a market to be held here weekly, and a fair to continue three days yearly, viz. *the vigil, the day of the feaſt of St. Peter and St. Paul, and the day ſubſequent to it.* He died in the 21ſt year of it, holding this manor, which he held for his life, by the law of England, of the king *in capite.* He left an only daughter and heir Margaret, then the wife of Ralph Stafford, who in her right became poſſeſſed of the manor of Yalding, and was a man greatly eſteemed by king Edward III. who among other marks of his favor, in his 24th year, advanced him to the title of earl of Stafford.

After which it continued in his deſcendants down to his great grandſon, Humphry Stafford, who was created duke of Buckingham anno 23 Henry VI. whoſe grandſon Henry, duke of Buckingham, having put himſelf in arms againſt king Richard, in favor of Henry, earl of Richmond, and being deſerted by his army, had concealed himſelf in the houſe of one Ralph Baniſter, who had been his ſervant, who on the king's proclamation of a reward of 1000l. or 100l. per annum, for the diſcovering of the duke, betrayed him, and he was without either arraignment or judgment, beheaded at Saliſbury.

In

In reward for this ſervice, the king immediately afterwards granted this manor to the before-mentioned Ralph Baniſter, to hold by knight's ſervice. But on the death of king Richard, and the acceſſion of the earl of Richmond to the crown, this manor returned to Edward, duke of Buckingham, eldeſt ſon and heir of the above-mentioned duke, who in the 13th year of the next reign of king Henry VIII. being accuſed of conſpiring the king's death, was found guilty, and beheaded on Tower-hill that year. He was afterwards attainted by parliament, and though his ſon Henry was reſtored in blood by another act, yet it did not extend to his honors and lands. So that the manor of Yalding becoming thus forfeited to the crown, the king granted it that year to Charles Somerſet, earl of Worceſter, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice.[e] He was the natural ſon of Henry, duke of Somerſet, and being a perſon of great parts, was much favored both by king Henry VII. and VIII. and arrived at high advancement both in honors and eſtates. By reaſon of his marriage with Elizabeth, ſole daughter and heir of William Herbert, earl of Huntington, he bore the title of lord Herbert, of Cherbury; being firſt made a knight banneret, then knight of the garter, and afterwards captain of the king's guards, a privy counſellor, and lord chamberlain, which office he continued in after the acceſſion of king Henry VIII. who continued him of his privy council, and conferred ſeveral important truſts on him; and by reaſon of his noble deſcent, and near alliance to the king in blood, as the patent imports, he was, in the 5th year of that reign, made earl of Worceſter, bearing for his arms, *France and England quarterly, a bordure gobony argent and azure, with a battoon ſiniſter argent*, his ſolemn creation being performed at the archbiſhop's palace at Lambeth the ſame day. He alienated this manor to George Nevill, lord Bergavenny, whoſe ſon

[e] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 3. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 294.

Henry,

Henry, lord Bergavenny, dying without male iſſue, this manor, among other eſtates, came to Edward Nevill, ſon of Sir Edward Nevill, a younger brother of George, lord Bergavenny, before-mentioned,[f] and his eldeſt ſon Edward, lord Bergavenny, alienated this manor to Iſaac, who again paſſed it away by ſale to the Freers, of Weſtmington, in Suſſex; from whom it was ſold, about the year 1670, to Thomas Brewer, eſq. of Smith's hall, in Weſt Farleigh, in whoſe deſcendants it continued till John Brewer, eſq. leaving an only daughter and heir Jane, who married John Carney, eſq. and 2dly, John Shrimpton, eſq. both of whom ſhe ſurvived, and died in 1762 without iſſue. She deviſed this manor, among the reſt of her eſtates, to her kinſman, the Rev. Dr. John Davis, prebendary of Canterbury, whoſe ſon John Davis, eſq. in 1774, alienated it to William Philip Perrin, eſq. of Smith's hall, and he immediately afterwards exchanged it for ſome other lands lying near his houſe, with Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Teſton, who is the preſent proprietor of it.

A court baron is held for this manor.

Woodfolde is a manor in this pariſh, which lies about half a mile ſouth-eaſtward from Brandt bridge, and was held in the reign of king Edward II. by Anceline Quyntin, and the heirs of Daniel de Lodneford, who held it of George Cham, as he did of the earl of Glouceſter. In the 20th year of king Edward III. Robert Reickyn, by his wife, ſiſter of John de Lodneford, paid reſpective aid for it. One of his deſcendants alienated it to Burton, in whoſe family it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when Robert Burton's heirs paſſed it away by ſale to that branch of the family of Fane, ſeated at Burſton, in the adjoining pariſh of Hunton. After which it continued in this family in like manner as Burſton, down to John Fane,

[f] Coll. Peer. vol. vi. p. 505 et ſeq. See more of this family, under Birling, vol. iv. p. 479.

earl of Weſtmoreland, who died *ſ. p.* in 1762, and it is now with that manor, as well as Mereworth, at length by the limitations in his will, come to the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of it.

THE MANOR OF LODINGFORD, alias BERMONDESEY, lies about half a mile eaſtward from Woodfold manor laſt deſcribed. It acquired the latter of theſe names from a family, who were proprietors of it. In the reign of king Edward II. Hugh de Bermondeſey was the poſſeſſor of it, and his heirs, in the 20th year of king Edward III. paid aid for it as the tenth part of a knight's fee, which he before held in Yalding of the earl of Glouceſter. How this manor paſſed afterwards, till it came into the poſſeſſion of the family of Wood, I have not found; but William Wood was owner of it in the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. and his deſcendant, Thomas Wood, alienated it to Fane, from which name it paſſed into that of Auſtin, and continued in it till Mrs. Auſtin, of London, deviſed it by her laſt will to Mary, daughter of Mr. Piggott, of Cambridge, who marrying the Rev. William Foſter, D. D. he is in her right the preſent poſſeſſor of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

JENNINGS-COURT is a manor which lies in the pariſhes of Yalding, Nettleſted, and Weſt Barming, and is held of the manor of Pipping-heath, though it ſeems once to have been accounted as a third part of Weſt Barming manor, extending into this pariſh. In the 20th year of king Edward III. as has been already mentioned before in the deſcription of that manor, it ſeems to have been then held by John de Huntingdon, how long it continued in that name I do not find, but in the 10th year of king Henry the VIth.'s reign, Thomas Knot, of Yalding, died poſſeſſed of it, by the name of part of the manor of Weſt Barming, otherwiſe called Pimpe, in this pariſh of Yalding. He ſeems to have alienated it to Thomas Attewood, whoſe deſcendant John Atwood, died in the 3d year of king Henry

Henry VIII. poſſeſſed of this eſtate, then called Gennyngs, alias Weſt Barming, in this pariſh, and Weſt Barming, part of it being held *in capite*, and the remainder of the duke of Buckingham, after which it appears to have been given, by the name of the manor of *Jennings-court*, to Brazen Noſe college, in Oxford, part of the poſſeſſions of which it remains at this time.

In 1687 this manor was held by leaſe from the above-mentioned college, by Allmott Peers, who alienated his intereſt in it ſoon afterwards to John Kenward, eſq. of this pariſh, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1708, and his grandſon, John Kenward, eſq. dying without male iſſue in 1749, his daughter Martha carried her intereſt in the leaſe of this manor in marriage to Sir John Shaw, bart. of Eltham, whoſe grandſon, Sir John Gregory Shaw, bart. is the preſent leſſee of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

BOKINGFOLD is a manor of large extent, the only houſe on which is ſituated juſt within the ſouthern bounds of this pariſh, though the demeſnes extended into thoſe of Brenchley, Horſemonden, Marden, and Goudhurſt; the manſion of it is continually mentioned in records and antient deeds, as being within the former of thoſe pariſhes, the bounds of which muſt therefore have been changed, or the preſent houſe on this manor could not be that which was antiently eſteemed the manſion of it; there was *a free chapel* belonging to it, and adjoining to it was *a park*, or *foreſt*, of no ſmall extent.

In the reign of king Henry III. this manor was in the poſſeſſion of the family of Crevequer, of whom Hamo de Crevequer died poſſeſſed of it in the 47th year of that reign, it being at that time a member of the manor of Chatham, which he held of the king by barony.[s] Robert his grandſon, ſiding with the rebellious barons, this manor was ſeized on by the king, where it reſted till king Edward II. in his ſecond year,

[s] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. N. 33. See Chatham, vol. iv. p. 205.

granted it, together with the free chapel of it, in fee, to Bartholomew de Badleſmere, for the annual rent of twenty-five pounds at his exchequer.

On a *quo warranto* brought in the 21ſt year of king Edward I. this manor being then in the crown, it was found that the collection of it belonged to the king, and was worth about ten marcs per annum, and that John de Capgrave was then in poſſeſſion of it, of the collation of the prior of Leeds, who alledged that he poſſeſſed the advowſon of it by the gift of Hamo de Crevequer, and that though queen Alianor had preſented to it in right of her manor of Leeds, yet that after her death, it had been determined, with the king's conſent, that it ſhould be reſtored to the prior, and this was teſtified by John de Berewick, &c. Notwithſtanding which, the king granted away this advowſon to Bartholomew de Badleſmere as above-mentioned, who, upon an exchange made between the king and him, ſix years afterwards, had another grant made to him in fee of this manor and chapel, to hold in ſocage, by the ſervice of paying *one pair of clove gilliflowers*, by the hands of the ſheriff,[h] and next year he obtained many liberties and privileges for his eſtates and free warren, for his demeſne lands of this manor, among others.[i] But afterwards ſiding with the earl of Lancaſter, and other diſcontented barons, he was with them defeated and put to death, and this manor, among his other eſtates, was confiſcated to the crown.

Whilſt this manor was in the crown, the king in his 19th year, withdrew to it, on the charge of his intention of viſiting France for the performance of his homage due for the duchy of Aquitaine, and during his ſtay here, Hamo de Hethe, biſhop of Rocheſter, the king's confeſſor, ſent him a preſent both of wine and grapes, from his vineyard at Halling, near Rocheſter,

[h] Rot. Turr. ps. 1ma. ejus an. Morant's Eſſex, vol. i. p. 265. Note A. [i] Rot. Cart. ejus an. N. 57.

and

and before he left it, finding many perſons had unlawfully hunted in his park of Bokinſold, he commanded that they ſhould be indicted for the treſpaſſes and irregularities they had committed in it ;[k] the large extent of it, and its wild appearance, covered with large and thick woods, gaining it the name of *a foreſt*, by which appellation Twine in his treatiſe, *de Rebus Albionicis*, mentions it, calling it *the foreſt of Buckenwald*, near Tunbridge.

After which, the king granted it, with the advowſon of the chapel, to Thomas de Camvill, by the above-mentioned ſervice, and he died in the 4th year of king Edward III. upon which the king confirmed it to Giles de Badleſmere, ſon of Bartholomew above mentioned, as being of his inheritance, and confirmed to him the grant of it made by his father in his ſecond year.[l] He died in the 12th year of the ſame reign, *ſ. p.* leaving his four ſiſters his coheirs,[l] and upon the parting of their inheritance this manor, with fifty acres of wood, belonging to it, was aſſigned to Maud, the eldeſt ſiſter, wife of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, and another fifty acres of wood belonging to it, to Margaret the youngeſt ſiſter, married to John de Tibetot.[m]

Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, grandſon of John above-mentioned, was the great favorite of Richard II. who created him duke of Ireland, and thought no accumulation of wealth and honors ſufficient to teſtify his great affection to him, but this prodigality of the king's favor made him ſo haughty and inſolent, that he was at length accuſed of treaſon, and baniſhed, and all his poſſeſſions were confiſcated, except his intailed lands, which only were to remain to his right heirs,[n] but the duke never became poſſeſſed of this manor, which at the above time remained in the poſſeſſion of Maud,

[k] Morant's Eſſex, vol. i. p. 265, note A.
[l] Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. [m] Ibid. vol. i. p. 59, 60, 193.
[n] See more of the Veres under Badleſmere.

the widow of his father Thomas, earl of Oxford, as part of her dower, and the inheritance of it was probably part of thoſe eſtates of the duke, confiſcated as before-mentioned, for ſoon afterwards this manor appears to have been granted to Thomas, duke of Glouceſter, the king's uncle, who in the 17th year of that reign ſettled it, being then held *in capite*, on his new-founded college at Plecy, in Eſſex.[o]

On the death of the counteſs of Oxford, in the 14th year of king Henry IV. the maſter and prieſts of the above college took poſſeſſion of this manor, and the advowſon of the chapel of it, and it continued with them till their diſſolution in the 27th year of king Henry VIII. when being one of thoſe leſſer houſes, whoſe revenues did not amount to two hundred pounds per annum, it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, and was granted, together with this manor and other premiſes, in the 38th year of that reign, to John Gate, or Gates, eſq. as he was commonly called, gentleman of the king's privy chamber, to hold *in capite*. He was knighted in the next reign, and in the 2d and 3d years of it his lands were *diſgavelled* by the act then paſſed, but after king Edward's death, being concerned in advancing lady Jane Grey to the crown, he was, with the duke of Northumberland, and others of that party, found guilty of high treaſon, and beheaded in the 1ſt year of queen Mary. This man was a great dealer in the ſuppreſſed religious houſes, the churches of which he never ſcrupled to pull down, to deſtroy their monuments, and to ſell the plunder of them to his own advantage;[p] being attainted, his lands became forfeited to the crown, and the queen before the end of that year, granted the manor of Bockingfield, with its appurtenances, to Suſan Tong, to hold *in capite*,

[o] See Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 169. Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. pt. 2. p. 130.

[p] See Morant, vol. i. p. 474. Weever, p. 637.

and

and ſhe in the 3d year of the queen's reign, alienated it to Thomas Culpepper, eſq. of Bedgbury, who was ſheriff in the 3d year of king Edward VI. his eldeſt ſon Alexander Colepeper, in the 6th year of queen Elizabeth, alienated *that part of this manor* which lay in Goudhurſt, under which pariſh a further account of it may be ſeen, to Sharpeigh, and *the other part of it*, which lay in Yalding, Brenchley, Marden, and Horſmonden, to Roger Revell, but it muſt be obſerved, that the *free chapel of Bockingfold*, after Sir John Gates's attaint, remained in the crown, and continued ſo till queen Elizabeth granted it to Richard Tilden, of Brenchley.[q]

That part of this manor of Bockingfield, lying in this pariſh, Brenchley, and Horſmonden, in the poſſeſſion of Roger Revell, was in the 17th year of that reign, by fine then levied, conveyed to Benedict Barnham, alderman of London, who died in 1598, leaving four daughters his coheirs,[r] and on the diviſion of their inheritance, Bridget the youngeſt, married to Sir William Soame, intitled her huſband to this eſtate. He ſold it in the beginning of king Charles the Iſt.'s reign, to Mr. George Brown, of Buckland, in Surry, who bore for his arms, *Gules, a griffin paſſant ſegreant, and a chief or*, which was aſſigned by William Segar, *garter*, to John Browne, of Brenchley, who married the daughter of Richard Tilden, of that pariſh abovementioned, and he in 1685 conveyed it to his brother Ambroſe Browne, of Buckland, who in 1693 paſſed it away to Mr. William Woodgate, of Chidingſtone, and his great grandſon William Woodgate, eſq. of Somerhill, in Tunbridge, is the preſent owner of it.

THE COURT LODGE of the manor of Yalding, and all the demeſne lands belonging to it, have been long

[q] Grant's Temp. Eliz. Roll iv. N. 42.

[r] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. i. See more of the Barnhams under Boughton Monchenſie.

ſeparated from the manor itſelf, and have been many years in the family of Plumer, the preſent proprietor of it being William Plumer, eſq. of Hertfordſhire, and M. P. for that county.

HENHURST is an eſtate in this pariſh, which was formerly held by a family of that name. In the reign of king Edward II. Gilbert de Henhurſt held half a knight's fee in Henhurſt, of the earl of Glouceſter, for which, in the 20th year of king Edward III. Richard Toteſham, Henry Gervas, and John de Sandherſt, paid reſpective aid. This eſtate continued in the name of Toteſham till the reign of king Henry VIII. when Anthony Toteſham, eſq. of Toteſham-hall, in Weſt Farleigh, alienated it to Thomas Chapman; from which name it paſſed by ſale to Laurence, and thence again to Auguſtine Skinner, eſq. one of whoſe deſcendants conveyed it to Goulſton, and Francis Goulſton, about the year 1726, ſold it, with Toteſham-hall and other eſtates in theſe parts, having the authority of an act of parliament for this purpoſe, to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Teſton, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1772, without iſſue, and by will gave it among his other eſtates to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, Elizabeth, viſcounteſs dowager Folkeſtone, and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor, ſince deceaſed; and on a partition of theſe eſtates, this at Yalding was, among others, allotted to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, now of Teſton, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

ANOTHER ESTATE in this pariſh, called *Kenward's farm*, was formerly in the poſſeſſion of the Twiſdens, in whoſe poſſeſſion it continued till Sir Thomas Twiſden, bart. of Bradbourn, and Anne his wife, in the reign of king George I. conveyed it to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Teſton, who died *ſ. p.* in 1772, ſince which it has become by his will, and a partition made ſince, in like manner as Henherſt above-mentioned, the property of Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Teſton.

There

There is a diſtrict in this pariſh, called *Trendherſt Denn*, which is within the manor of Gillingham, near Rocheſter.

CHARITIES.

WILLIAM CLEAVE, citizen and haberdaſher of London, in the year 1663, founded and endowed *a free ſchool* in this pariſh, for teaching the pariſhioners of it reading, writing, and arithmetic.

MRS. ALKHORNE, of Crowhurſt, in Suſſex, and her ſiſter MRS. BENNET WARDE, of Yalding, widow, in 1711, founded and endowed *another free ſchool* here, for the teaching of 24 poor children, boys and girls; the former to be taught to read the bible, and each to have one given to them; and the latter to be taught reading, knitting, and plain work, to fit them for ſervice.

MRS. JULIAN KENWARD, of Yalding, in 1619, gave by will land in this pariſh, the produce to be diſtributed yearly, for four gowns, ſix ſhirts and ſix ſhifts, to be given to the poor yearly on a Good Friday, now of the annual produce of 3l.

MR. THOMAS CLEAVE, citizen and haberdaſher of London, and MRS. BENNET WARDE, of Yalding, in 1637, gave by deed lands to the value of 5l. 4s. per annum, for thirteen penny loaves, to be given to the poor of this pariſh not receiving alms, on every Sunday throughout the year, and the reſidue of the money to be given to the poor on Good Friday.

MRS. JULIAN KENWARD, of this pariſh, widow, THOMAS TWIFFIN and JOHN TWIFFIN, of Kingſton, in Surry, brewers, in 1641, gave by deed lands to the value of 10l. per annum; half of which was to be applied to the ſchoolmaſter to teach five poor children to read, write, &c. and the other half to be given to the poor of this pariſh, not receiving alms, on Good Friday yearly, now of the annual product of 8l. 10s.

AMBROSE WARD, ESQ. above-mentioned, who died in 1637, beſtowed 50l. in land for the uſe of the poor of this pariſh for ever.

YALDING is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is a large handſome building, conſiſts of three iſles and a large chancel, with a ſquare tower at the weſt end. Againſt the ſouth wall in it is a very antient altar tomb, which has been much defaced, on which is remaining, *Ermine, a bend gules.*

There

There was formerly a braſs plate on it. On a large ſtone in the middle iſle, is a memorial for Robert Penhurſt, deſcended from Sir Robert Penhurſt, of Penhurſt, in Suſſex, who died in 1610. The arms, on a ſhield, *a mullet*. In the chancel there is a handſome monument for the family of Warde, who bore for their arms, *Azure, a croſs flory or*, and one for the family of Kenward, in this pariſh. In the pavement of the church are ſeveral large broad ſtones, a kind of petrifaction of the teſtaceous kind, dug up in the moors or low lands in this pariſh.

Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, gave the church of Aldinges, with the chapel of Brencheſley, and all their appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms, to the priory of Tunbridge, lately founded by him.

Gilbert de Glanvill, biſhop of Rocheſter, who came to that ſee in the 31ſt year of king Henry II. confirmed this gift, and granted, that the prior and canons ſhould poſſeſs the appropriation of this church in pure and perpetual alms; ſaving a perpetual vicarage in it, granted by his authority, with the aſſent and preſentation of the prior and canons as follows:

That the vicar ſhould have the altarage, and all obventions, and ſmall tithes belonging to this church, and all houſes, which were within the court, and the land belonging to the church, together with the tenants and homages, and the alder-bed, and the tithes of ſheaves of Weneſmanneſbroke, and the tithes of Longeſbroke, of the new aſſart, and the moiety of meadow belonging to the church; all which were granted to him, to hold under the yearly penſion of two ſhillings, duly to be paid to the prior and canons; and that the vicar ſhould ſuſtain all epiſcopal burthens and cuſtoms, as well for the prior and canons as for himſelf. And he granted to the prior and canons as part of the appropriation, the tithes of ſheaves of this church, excepting the ſaid tithes of Weneſmanneſbroke, and of Longebroke; and that they ſhould have the

moiety

moiety of the meadow belonging to the church, with the fiſheries, and the place in which the two greater barns ſtood, with the barns themſelves, and the whole outer court in which the ſtable ſtood, with the garden which was towards the eaſt, and the ſmall piece of land which lay by the garden, and the rent of four-pence, which ought to be paid yearly to the court of Eylesforde; reſerving to himſelf the power of altering the endowment of this vicarage, if at any time it ſhould ſeem expedient; ſaving, nevertheleſs, all epiſcopal rights to the biſhop of Rocheſter, &c.[s]

The church of Yalding, together with the advowſon of the vicarage, remained with the priory of Tunbridge, till the ſuppreſſion of it, in the 17th year of king Henry VIII. when being one of thoſe ſmaller monaſteries which cardinal Wolſey had obtained for the endowment of his colleges, it was ſurrendered into his hands, with all the poſſeſſions belonging to it.

After which the king granted his licence to him, in his 18th year, to appropriate and annex this church, among others of the cardinal's patronage, to the dean and canons of the college founded by him in the univerſity of Oxford. But here it ſtaid only four years, when this great prelate being caſt in a *præmunire* in 1529, the eſtates of that college were forfeited to the king, and became part of the royal revenue.

Queen Elizabeth, in her 10th year, granted the rectory or parſonage of Yalding, and the advowſon of the vicarage, for thirty years, to Mr. John Warde, at the yearly rent of thirty pounds, in whoſe poſſeſſion they continued till king James I. in his 5th year, granted the fee of them to Richard Lyddale and Edward Boſtock, at the like yearly rent,[t] and they ſoon afterwards alienated them to Ambroſe Warde, gent. of this pariſh, ſon of John above-mentioned, in whoſe

[s] Reg. Roff. p. 145, 146, 666.
[t] Partic. of Fee-farm Rents *temp. interregni*, roll 62-180.

deſcendants

deſcendants they continued down till they came into the poſſeſſion of three brothers, Thomas, of Littlebrook, in Stone; George and Ambroſe, among whoſe deſcendants they came afterwards to be divided, and again ſub-divided in different ſhares, one third part to captain Thomas Amhurſt, of Rocheſter; one third of a third part, and a third of a ſixth part to Mr. Holmes, of Derby; Mr. Ambroſe Ward, of Littlebrook, and the Rev. Mr. Richard Warde, late of Oxford, each alike, and the remaining ſixth part by the Rev. Mr. John Warde, the preſent vicar of this pariſh, who ſome years ago rebuilt the vicarage-houſe in a very handſome manner.

This rectory now pays a yearly fee-farm rent of thirty pounds to the crown.

It is valued in the king's books, at 20l. 18s. 9d. and the yearly tenths at 2l. 1s. 10½d.

There are *two ſeparate manors*, one belonging to the rectory or parſonage, and the other to the vicarage of this church.

CHURCH OF YALDING.

PATRONS, &c. *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
Prior and canons of Tunbridge ...	*Laurence*, preſented in 1184.[u]
	William Sibthorpe, 1411.
	Nicholas Dunlaugh, 1486.[w]
	Nicholas None, 1493.[x]
The Crown.	*Robert Cage*, 1560.[y]
Ambroſe Warde, eſq.	*Richard Beeſton*, in 1630.
	Oliver North, A. M. 1663, ob. May 11, 1675.[z]
	Samuel Rhodes, A. M. 1700.
	John Lyng, A. M. inſtit. Feb. 13, 1706.

[u] Reg. Roff. p. 146. He had been rector, and reſigning this church, became the firſt vicar of it.

[w] Reg. Roff. p. 166.

[x] Ibid. p. 490.

[y] Vacant by deprivation. Rymer's Fœd. vol. xv. p. 563.

[z] He was vicar of Teſton, and lies buried in this church.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Ambrose Warde, esq.	*John Fuller*, A. M. instit. Jan. 1738, obt. July 1751.[a]
	Daniel Hill, A. M. resigned 1759.[b]
Mr. Thomas Warde.	*John Warde*, 1759, the present vicar.[c]

a He was also vicar of Linton.
b Since vicar of East Malling, and rector of Addington.
c Son of Mr. Thomas Warde, the patron.

THE

HUNDRED OF WACHLINGSTONE,

AND THE

LOWY OF TUNBRIDGE.

SOUTH-WESTWARD from Twyford hundred lies the hundred of Wachlingstone, with *the liberty of the lowy of Tunbridge*, probably once part of it, though now, and for a long time past, a separate jurisdiction from it.

THE LOWY OF TUNBRIDGE.

Or, as it is now generally called, *the lewy*, adjoins the hundred of Littlefield towards the north, and on the other sides is incircled by the hundred of Wachlingstone, being about five miles in length from north to south, and about six miles in width from east to west. The whole of it lies within that district of the county, called *the Weald of Kent*.

It contains within its bounds the boroughs of

1. HADLOW,
2. TUNBRIDGE TOWN,
3. HILDEN, and
4. SOUTH.

The

The borough of Hadlow contains part of the pariſh of Capel, and part of the pariſh of Hadlow, and the churches of both thoſe pariſhes.

The borough of Tunbridge Town contains that town and the church; and the boroughs of Hilden and South contain the remaining part of the pariſh of Tunbridge.

Each of theſe boroughs has a conſtable, who has juriſdiction over his reſpective borough.

THE LOWY OF TUNBRIDGE is called in old Latin deeds, *Diſtrictus Leucæ de Tonebridge*, and in the book of Domeſday, *Leuua Ricardæ de Tonebriga*.

It was antiently the cuſtom in Normandy, to term the diſtrict round an abbey, caſtle, or chief manſion, *leuca* or *leucata*, in Engliſh, *the lowy*, in which the poſſeſſor had generally a grant of ſeveral peculiar liberties, privileges, and exemptions.

When Richard Fitz-Giſlebert, who came into England with the Conqueror, had poſſeſſed himſelf of the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge, in exchange with the archbiſhop for other lands in Normandy, he procured a grant of ſeveral liberties and exemptions to it, as well as to his adjoining manor of Hadlow, probably the ſame as thoſe he enjoyed with his poſſeſſions there, after the example of which he called this diſtrict round his manors and caſtle, *the lowy of Tunbridge*, by which name it has been called ever ſince.

In proceſs of time frequent diſputes aroſe between the earls of Glouceſter, ſucceſſors of Richard de Tonebridge in his lowy, and the archbiſhops of Canterbury, concerning the extent, limits, and privileges of it, which were adjuſted by actual ſurveys and perambulations, the firſt of which was made in the 43d year of king Henry III. by the king's command, upon a contention between archbiſhop Boniface and Richard, earl of Glouceſter, by the view and oaths of twenty-four men, twelve of whom were choſen by the archbiſhop, and the other twelve by the earl, to determine it.

After

After this, diſputes again ariſing, concerning the bounds of the lowy, another perambulation was had in the 8th year of king Edward I. before Stephen de Pencheſter and Solomon Roffe, juſtices in eyre, by the view and oaths of a like inqueſt. But the places, as well as the names of perſons mentioned in both theſe perambulations, being obſolete, and now totally unknown, the inſertion of them in this place can give ſo little information to the reader, that it has been thought proper to omit them both here.

And the inqueſt found further, "that no man's "tenants, excepting the earl's, were within the pe-"rambulation; and that the tenants of the archbi-"ſhop were within the juriſdiction of his own bailiff "or miniſters."

At which time the earl of Glouceſter claimed among others, theſe liberties within his lowy, viz. a coroner out of his own tenants, or by their election in the court of Tunbridge; that his tenants ſhould not make preſentments before any juſtices in eyre, either of aſſize or of gaol delivery, but only when they ſhould come into the lowy; which they ought to do before their departure out of Kent, and there to hold their oyer aſſizes, or gaol delivery for the lowy.

That the miniſters of the king, or of the archbiſhop, ſhould not bear up their rods in the lowy, nor make any ſummons or diſtreſſes for any pleas out of it.

That his tenants ſhould be free of toll over all England; and that when the juſtices in eyre ſhould come to Canterbury, the earl's ſteward ſhould go thither with twelve men of the lowy, and in their hearing demand allowance of theſe liberties, and the juſtices ſhould at their pleaſure aſſign a day to go to Tunbridge, before their departure out of the ſhire.

In the 7th year of king Edward I. the earl of Glouceſter claimed the above liberties within his lowy,

and

and likewiſe view of frank-pledge, and aſſize of bread and beer, within his lands in the pariſhes of Eltham, Keſton, Mereworth, Netelſtede, Chekeſhall, Tremworth, Hardreſs, Stelling, Natyngden, Blean, and Sheldewyke, and that his tenants in them ſhould be free of all ſuit and ſervice in the hundreds of the county, and on a *quo warranto* in the 21ſt year, and again in the 29th of the above reign, the liberties and privileges above-mentioned, within the lowy, were allowed and confirmed to him and his heirs. Hugh de Audley, and Margaret his wife, in the 7th year of king Edward III. claimed theſe liberties within their lowy, and likewiſe free warren and chaſe, and to hold pleas of *withernam*, and that the tenants of the lowy ſhould be free of all toll, paſſage, murage, pontage, contributions to the repair of highways, &c. throughout England.

Theſe liberties and privileges ſeem to have been at firſt extended to the earl's tenants in different parts of this county, at ſome diſtance from the lowy, which from thence ſeem to have been accounted as within the bounds of it; of which there are ſeveral examples in the book of Domeſday, in which Ricardus de Tonebridge is ſaid to have held lands *in ſua Leuga*, that is, within his lowy, as may be obſerved in different places throughout this hiſtory.

All the above-mentioned liberties, even within the diſtrict of the lowy, have been diſuſed time out of mind; nor has there been a bailiff appointed for it within memory: ſo that now it falls in with the like juriſdiction as other places in this county, which, not being in any hundred, appoint their own conſtables.

HADLOW.

THE BOROUGH OF HADLOW, within the lowy of Tunbridge, contains the *pariſh of Hadlow*, with the church, except a ſmall diſtrict of the northern part of it, which is in the hundred of Littlefield.

THE PARISH of Hadlow is of large extent, joining to Weſt Peckham northward, and to the river Medway, its boundary ſouthward; to the weſt it extends to the Northfrith woods and the pariſh of Tunbridge. It is far from being a pleaſant ſituation, being a flat low country, much covered with large and ſpreading oaks, and broad hedge rows; the ſoil is in general a ſtiff clay, much of which is very ſwampy and wet; towards the upper part of the pariſh it is but poor, being very panny, and in ſome places inclining to gravel; lower down it is much more fertile, and bears good corn, and is kindly for hops, of which there are many plantations, which have much increaſed of late years. Near the river the graſs lands are very rich, and capable of fatting beaſts of a large ſize. The rivulet called *the Sheet*, which flows from Plaxtool by Oxenhoath, croſſes this pariſh, joining the river Medway, a little above Brandt bridge, near which at Hartlake bridge, at the eaſt end of this pariſh, is what is here called *a flowing bolt*, being an ingenious contrivance to pen up the water to a certain height, by which means it is capable of being let out in dry ſeaſons, to flow over and moiſten the adjoining meadows, which is at that time of the greateſt advantage to them. The high road from Maidſtone through Mereworth to Tunbridge, croſſes this pariſh over Hadlow common, at the northern boundary of it, whence it goes through the town or village of Hadlow, between which and the river is Fiſh-hall and

Hadlow-place, and more eaſtward the ſmall hamlets of Goldwell-green, Barnes, and Mill-ſtreet.

On the bank of the Medway, at the weſt end of the pariſh, is a wharf and landing place, called Hadlow-ſtairs, for the lading and unlading of timber, coals and other merchandize.

A fair is yearly held in Hadlow town on Whit-Monday.

IT APPEARS from the ſurvey of Domeſday, that this place was part of thoſe vaſt poſſeſſions with which William the Conqueror enriched his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, whom he afterwards made earl of Kent, under the title of whoſe lands it is thus entered there.

Richard de Tonebridge holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Haſtew. It was taxed at ſix ſulings. The arable land is twelve carucates. In demeſne there are three, and forty-ſeven villeins, with fifteen borderers, having fifteen carucates. There is a church and ten ſervants, and two mills of eleven ſhillings, and twelve fiſheries of ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence, and twelve acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of ſixty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth thirty pounds. Eddeva held it of king Edward

In the reign of king Henry III. the ſeignory of this manor was claimed by the archbiſhop of Canterbury, and an agreement was entered into in the 42d year of it, between archbiſhop Boniface and Richard de Clare, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, concerning the cuſtoms and ſervices which the archbiſhop required of the earl, on account of the tenements which the latter held of him in Tunebregge, Hanlo, &c. that is, the manors of Tunebregge and Hanlo, together with the whole lowy of Tonebregge, whence the archbiſhop required of the earl that he ſhould do him homage, the ſervice of four knights fees, and ſuit to his court at Canterbury, and that he ſhould be

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the high ſteward of him and his ſucceſſors, at thier great feaſt, whenever it ſhould happen that the archbiſhop ſhould be inthroned.

The above-mentioned Richard de Clare, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, dying at Eſchemerfield, in this county, in the 46th year of the reign of king Henry III. anno 1261. Gilbert, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, his ſon, ſucceeded him in this manor, and whoſe ſon of the ſame name, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, dying in the 7th year of Edward II. anno 1313, without ſurviving iſſue, his three ſiſters became his coheirs.[d] Upon which the manor of Hadlow, with the adjoining manor and caſtle of Tunbridge, and others in theſe parts, ſeem to have been allotted to the ſhare of Margaret, the ſecond ſiſter, wife of Hugh de Audley, who in her right became poſſeſſed of this manor, and in the 11th year of king Edward III. was, in reſpect of this marriage, in parliament created earl of Glouceſter.

Margaret, counteſs of Cornwall and Glouceſter, died in the 16th year of that reign, and her huſband, earl Hugh, outliving her about five years, died then poſſeſſed of this manor by courteſy of the realm, and leaving by her an only daughter and heir Margaret, then the wife of Ralph Stafford, lord Stafford. He before the end of that year obtained a ſpecial poſſeſſion of all the lands of her inheritance, and among them of this manor, and in his deſcendants, earls of Stafford, and afterwards, by creation, dukes of Buckingham, of high eſtimation for the great offices of ſtate which they held in the different reigns in which they lived. This manor continued down to Edward, duke of Buckingham, who in the 13th year of Henry VIII. being accuſed of conſpiring the king's death, was found guilty, and beheaded that year; and although

[d] See more of the family of Clare, as well as the ſucceeding poſſeſſors of this manor under Tunbridge, hereafter.

there was an act paſſed for his attainder, yet another act paſſed likewiſe for the reſtitution in blood of Henry his eldeſt ſon, but not to his honors and lands, which remained forfeited to the crown, and the king in his 16th year, granted the manors of Hadlow and Northfrith, aud ſeveral meſſuages, tenements, parks, &c. in the pariſhes of Hadlow, Shipborne, and Tunbridge, late belonging to Edward, duke of Buckingham, attainted, to Sir Henry Guildford, comptroller of his houſhold, to hold by knight's ſervice.

Sir Henry Guildford had greatly ſignalized himſelf by his valour againſt the Moors in Spain, and being firſt knighted, afterwards created a knight banneret, and made maſter of the horſe. In the 17th year of king Henry VIII. he was made one of the chamberlains of the exchequer, and next year was elected a knight of the garter, being only thirty-nine years of age at the time of his election.[e]

On his death in the 23d year of king Henry VIII. this manor ſeems to have reverted to the crown, where it remained till king Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted the manor and park of Hadlow to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, who was afterwards created duke of Northumberland, and he by indenture, in the 7th year of that reign, inrolled in the Augmentation-office, ſold this manor, among other premiſes, to the king, in exchange for lands in ſeveral other counties.[f]

The manor of Hadlow remained in the crown till the acceſſion of queen Elizabeth, who in her 1ſt year granted it, together with the park called Northfryth, to her kinſman, Henry Carey, lord Hunſdon, to hold *in capite*; and he ſeems to have given it before his death to his eldeſt ſon, Sir George Carey, who poſſeſſed it.

[e] See more of the Guildfords under Benenden.

[f] See Augtn. off. box C. 17. See more of the duke of Northumberland under Knoll, in Sevenoke, vol. iii. p. 68.

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in the 25th year of that reign, and on his father's death in the 38th year of it, ſucceeded to the title of lord Hunſdon. He died in the 1ſt year of king James I. without male iſſue, upon which this manor came to his next brother John, who ſucceeded him likewiſe as lord Hunſdon, and died in the 15th year of James I. and his eldeſt ſon Henry, lord Hunſdon, ſoon afterwards conveyed this manor by ſale to James Faircloth, M. D. of London, who alienated it to George Rivers, eſq. of this pariſh, ſecond ſon of Sir George Rivers, of Chafford, in this county, whoſe ſon Edward Rivers, eſq. was of Fiſhall, in this pariſh, and dying poſſeſſed of this manor in 1660, was buried near his father in this church. His ſucceſſor alienated it in the reign of king Charles II. to Jeffry Amherſt, gent. and he in the year 1699 ſold it to Mr. John France, who dying without male iſſue, his two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, became his coheirs; the eldeſt of whom married Walter Barton, gent. and the youngeſt George Swayne, gent. On his death, the former by ſettlement ſucceeded to this manor, as did his ſon Mr. John Barton, (by the entail in the ſame ſettlement, on his father's deceaſe) and his ſon Walter who has ſince taken the name of May, is the preſent proprietor of it.

This manor holds a court leet and court baron, which ſeems to be entirely independent of the court leet of the manor of Tunbridge, for in 1759 a conſtable of Tunbridge was choſen at the court leet of that manor, and as ſuch claimed juriſdiction over the pariſh of Hadlow; but on a trial had on a ſuit concerning it, at the Lent aſſizes for this county in 1761, it was proved, that the courts leet of Tunbridge and Hadlow had no connection with each other, and a verdict was found accordingly.

HADLOW-PLACE is a ſeat and eſtate in this pariſh, which, in all probability, gave both name and reſidence to a family of no ſmall note in antient time.

John de Hadloe, a deſcendant of Nicholas de Hadloe, was among thoſe gentlemen of this county, who attended king Edward I. in his expedition into Scotland, in the 28th year of his reign, and for his remarkable ſervice there, at the ſiege of Carlaverock, was made knight banneret by that prince. The Hadlows bore for their arms, *three creſcents*, to which was afterwards added, *ſeven croſs-croſlets*, in token of ſome exploit or expedition againſt the Saracens in the holy land; a uſual mark of honor in thoſe times. This addition was moſt likely granted to Nicholas de Hadloe, who is in the liſt of thoſe Kentiſh gentlemen, who were with king Richard I. at the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine.

How long Hadlow-place remained in the above-mentioned family I do not find; but moſt likely till it was alienated to that of Vane, alias Fane. Henry Fane, the eldeſt ſon of John Fane, eſq. of Tunbridge, was poſſeſſed of it in the reign of king Henry VII. and was ſheriff in the 23d year of it.[g] He died in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. anno 1538, leaving no iſſue by Alice his wife, ſiſter of John Fiſher, gent. of this pariſh. By his will he gave this manor-place, in which he then dwelt, with all his lands in Hadloe and Capel, to his kinſman Ralph Fane, ſon of Henry, his father's youngeſt brother, in tail male, remainder to each of the ſons of his youngeſt brother, John Fane, ſucceſſively in like tail.[h]

Ralph Fane was afterwards knighted at the ſiege of Bulleyn in 1544, and for his gallant behaviour at the battle of Muſſelborough, in the 1ſt year of king Edward VI. was made a knight banneret; but in the 6th year of that reign, being found guilty of high treaſon, he was executed. He died without iſſue, and Hadlow-place, with the adjoining lands, by virtue

[g] See more of this branch, under Mereworth, vol. v. p. 75.
[h] Collins's Peerage, vol. ii. p. 260 et ſeq.

of

of the above entail, came to Henry Fane, the eldeſt ſon of John Fane, deceaſed, the youngeſt brother of Henry, of Hadlow, before-mentioned, who was of Hadlow-place; being concerned in Sir Thomas Wyatt's inſurrection, he was attainted, but the queen pardoned him on account of his youth, and his eſtates were reſtored to him; his ſon Henry, wrote himſelf, as his anceſtors had formerly done, Vane, which his poſterity have continued to do ever ſince. He removed his reſidence to Raby-caſtle, in the biſhopric of Durham, and was afterwards knighted, from which time he acted a conſpicuous part in public affairs, and was greatly favored by king Charles I.[i] But in the year 1642, the king being offended at his forwardneſs in the proſecution of the earl of Strafford, he was removed from his place of ſecretary of ſtate, and from the privy council, and became one of the moſt malicious of the king's enemies, ſoon after whoſe death he alienated this ſeat, with the eſtate belonging to it in this pariſh, to Mr. Thomas Petley, of Filſton, in Shoreham, who at his death gave it to his ſon, Ralph Petley, by his ſecond wife Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Cam, of London, and he removed from Shoreham to Riverhead, in Sevenoke, where he afterwards reſided, and in his deſcendants reſident there this eſtate continued down in like manner with that ſeat to Ralph Robert Catter Petley, eſq. who died in 1788, leaving his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Petley ſurviving, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of this eſtate.[k]

FROMANS, alias GOODWIS, is a manor in this pariſh, which was formerly called, more properly, *Fromonds*, from a family of that name, once poſſeſſors of it.

Simon Fromond was owner of it in the reign of king Henry III. in the 43d year of which he was

[i] See Shipborne for a further account of this branch of Vane.
[k] See Riverhead, in Sevenoke, vol. iii. p. 96.

choſen one of the twelve jurats on the part of the earl of Glouceſter, to determine the bounds of the lowy, in a diſpute between him and the archbiſhop. His ſucceſſor in it was Peter Fromund, whoſe houſe is mentioned in a perambulation of the lowy, taken in the 8th year of king Edward I. being juſt within the boundary of that diſtrict.

In the above-mentioned family this manor continued till Richard Fromond ſold it to one of the family of Colepeper, in whoſe deſcendants it continued till Richard Colepeper, of Oxenhoath, about the time of king Edward IV. paſſed it away by ſale to John Fromond, a deſcendant of the before-mentioned Richard Fromund, by one of whoſe ſucceſſors it was alienated to Vane, alias Fane, in which family it continued down, in like manner as Hadlow place above-mentioned, to Henry Fane, eſq. of Hadlow-place, who died in the 22d year of queen Elizabeth, poſſeſſed of this manor of Goodins, alias Fromins, then held of the manor of Hadlow by knight's ſervice.

His grandſon Sir Henry re-aſſumed the original name of his family, calling himſelf Vane, of whom mention has been made under Hadlow-place, on his removing to his ſeat at Raby-caſtle, in the north. He alienated this manor, with the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, ſoon after the death of king Charles I. to Mr Thomas Petley, of Filſton, in Shoreham, from whom it deſcended, in like manner as Hadlow-place above-deſcribed, to Ralph Robert Carter Petley, eſq. of Riverhead, who died in 1788, leaving his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Petley ſurviving, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

A court baron is held for this manor.

CROMBURY, alias EAST CROMBURY, is another manor in Hadlow, which in antient time was called *Crancheberi*, and afterwards *Crongeberi*, as appears in the archives of the church of Rocheſter.

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This place was ſoon after the conqueſt in the poſſeſſion of William, ſon of William de Horſmundenne, who gave the tenths of it to the monks of St. Andrew's priory, in Rocheſter, (for which a compoſition of five ſhillings a year was agreed to) at which time it was accounted an appurtenance to the manor of Mereworth.[1] It afterwards came into the poſſeſſion of the family of that name; John de Mereworth, in the 20th year of king Edward III. paid aid for the manor of Mereworth with Crongebury, held of the earl of Glouceſter as one knight's fee.

From this name it paſſed into that of Fromund, in which it ſtaid till Thomas Fromund alienated it to John Godwin, one of whoſe ſucceſſors ſold it to Peckham, and Katherine Peckham died poſſeſſed of it in the 7th year of king Henry VII. then holding it of the duke of Buckingham, as did her ſon, Thomas Peckham, gent. in the 9th year of king Henry VIII. holding it by knight's ſervice, as appears by the inquiſitions taken after their reſpective deaths; his ſon, Thomas Peckham, ſoon afterwards paſſed it away to the family of Vane, alias Fane, in which it continued down, in like manner as Hadlow-place, &c. to Sir Henry Vane, for ſo he ſpelt his name, who, as his anceſtors had before, became a man of great note in public affairs.

He removed from this pariſh to his ſeat of Raby-caſtle, in the north, and ſoon after the death of king Charles I. alienated this manor, with the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, to Mr. Thomas Petley, of Filſton, in Shoreham, from whom it deſcended, in like manner as Hadlow-place and Fromunds above deſcribed, to Ralph Robert Carter Petley, eſq. of Riverhead, who died in 1788, leaving his wife Mrs. Elizabeth Petley ſurviving, who now poſſeſſes it.

There is a court baron held for this manor.

[1] Text. Roff. p. 178. Reg. Roff. p. 382.

CAUSTONS is a manor in this parish, which had formerly owners of that name. In the 8th year of king Edward II. the heirs of Hugh de Causton and William Franklyn held the eigth part of a knight's fee in Hadlow, of the honor of Clare.

This manor continued in the name of Causton, till Hugh Causton alienated it to one of the family of Watton, of Addington, in which it remained till William Watton, esq. of Addington, about the reign of king Edward IV. sold it to Thomas Peckham, owner likewise of the manor of Crombery last described, in whose descendants it continued till Thomas Peckham, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. passed it away, with the rest of his estates in this parish, to the family of Vane, alias Fane, in which it continued down, in like manner as Hadlow-place, &c. to Sir Henry Vane, for so he wrote himself, as all his posterity have done since, who became a man of much eminence in public affairs. Soon after the death of king Charles I. he passed away this manor by sale to Maynard, of Mayfield, in Sussex, in which name it remained in the reign of king Charles II. after which it had some intermediate owners, and was then sold to Mr. John Kipping, in which name and family it still continues. Mr. Thomas Kipping, being at this time the possessor of it.

GOLDWELL, alias COLDWELL, is an estate in this parish, which was antiently in the possession of a family of some rank, named Beald, from whence it passed into that of Fromund, who were considerable owners in this parish, as has been already related, in whom it continued some time, and then John Fromund alienated it to one of the family of Colepeper,[m] in which it continued till Sir Richard Colepeper, of Oxenhoath, dying in the 2d year of the reign of king Richard III. without male

[m] Philipott, p. 175. See Oxenhoath in West Peckham.

issue,

iſſue, his three daughters became his coheirs, and on the diviſion of their inheritance, this eſtate of Goldwell was allotted to Margaret the eldeſt, married to William Cotton, eſq. afterwards of Oxenhoath, and his grandſon, Robert Cotton, eſq. of Hadlow, alienated it to John Chowne, gent. of Fairlane, whoſe great-grandſon, Sir George Chowne, of Fairlane, intending to confine his poſſeſſions within Suſſex, ſold it, after the death of king Charles I. to Mr. Thomas Barton, gent. whoſe daughter Alice married John Keriel, eſq. whoſe grandſon John Keriel, paſſed it away by ſale to Mr. William Heath, on whoſe death without iſſue, it came to his ſiſter, Mrs. Elizabeth Burges, of Weſterham, whoſe only ſon, Robert Burges, eſq. of Hall-place, in Lyghe, lately died poſſeſſed of it.

Peckhams is a manor in this pariſh, which took its name from a family which once poſſeſſed it.

John de Peckham, in the 8th year of Edward II. held this manor of the honor of Clare by knight's ſervice, and in his deſcendants it continued till it was alienated to Colepeper, in which name it ſtaid till the death of Sir Richard Colepeper, without male iſſue, when on the diviſion of the inheritance of his three daughters and coheirs, this manor was alloted to Margaret the eldeſt, married to William Cotton, eſq. afterwards of Oxenhoath, whoſe grandſon, Robert Cotton, eſq. of Hadlow, alienated it to Ferrers. In the 6th year of king Edward VI. dame Conſtantia Ferrers died poſſeſſed of this manor, holding it by knights ſervice, and her ſon Edward Ferrers alienated it to Leigh, whoſe deſcendant Mr. John Leigh paſſed it away by ſale to George Rivers, eſq. of this pariſh, and his grandſon, in the reign of king Charles II. ſold it to a family of the name of Dalling, one of whom, Mr. John Dalling, of Weſterham, died poſſeſſed of it about 1750, leaving an only daughter and heir, married to Mr. Jonathan Chilwell, then of Tunbridge,

bridge, but afterwards of London, who is the preſent proprietor of this manor.

FISH-HALL is a ſeat here, which was formerly the reſidence of John de Fiſher, ſo called from his being inveſted by Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter, lord of the lowy of Tunbridge, with the privilege of fiſhing freely and without controul within his juriſdiction. The name of Fiſher continued in his poſterity, one of whom, John Fiſher, poſſeſſed this ſeat, and reſided here in the reign of king Henry VIII. in the 35th year of which, he had a leaſe from the king, of the ſcite of the manor of Hadlow, as he had ſoon afterwards of all the rivers, fiſheries, and ponds within it. He alienated this ſeat to the family of Fane, alias Vane, from one of whom it paſſed by ſale into that of Rivers, of Chafford.

George Rivers, ſecond ſon of Sir George Rivers, of Chafford, reſided at Fiſh-hall, and was ſucceeded by his ſon Edward, who likewiſe reſided here, and poſſeſſed it at his death in 1660. His ſucceſſor alienated it in the reign of king Charles II. to Jeffry Amhurſt, gent. and he ſold it to John France, who left two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, his coheirs; the eldeſt of whom married Walter Barton, gent. and the youngeſt, George Swayne, gent. to the latter of whom he by his will gave this ſeat, and his ſon, Mr. Thomas Swayne, ſold it to Mr. John Porter, of this pariſh, who is the preſent owner of it.

BARNES-PLACE is a conſiderable eſtate in this pariſh, which lately belonged to Sir John Van Hatton, who in 1768 paſſed it away by ſale to Sarah, lady viſcounteſs Falkland, ſhe died poſſeſſed of it in 1776, and by her will deviſed it for life to her huſband, Lucius Carey, viſcount Falkland, and the remainder in fee to Francis Motley Auſten, eſq. now of Sevenoke, who has ſince purchaſed lord Falkland's intereſt in it, and is the preſent proprietor of it.

CHARITIES.

ROBERT WHITE gave by will in 1619, for the benefit of the poor of this parish, 100*l.* vested in the parish officers, and now of the annual produce of 8*l.*

JOHN WELLS, by will in 1697, gave for the like purpose, a sum of money vested in like manner, and now of the annual produce of 1*l.*

The number of poor receiving relief are about 100.

HADLOW is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Rochester, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which stands on the east side of the town, in Hadlow borough, is dedicated to St. Mary. It is a small building with a low pointed steeple at the west end. There is a monument in it for Sir John Rivers and his lady. It was part of the possessions of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, commonly called the knights hospitallers, so early as the reign of king John; for in the last year of it, anno 1216, Benedict, bishop of Rochester, at the presentation of the prior and brethren of that hospital, admitted and instituted Adam de Fontibus to this church, saving to the prior and brethren the antient pension of two shillings yearly paid to them from it; and the right likewise of the church of Rochester in all matters, and the right of those who were accustomed to take tithes in this parish, separated from the mother church.

Thomas de Inglethorpe, bishop of Rochester, in 1287, appropriated this church, then vacant, and of the patronage of the prior and brethren, to them and their house, for ever; reserving *a competent vicarage* in it, which he decreed should consist of all the small tithes, oblations, obventions, and all other matters belonging to the altarage, excepting the tithe of the hay of the parish; and he decreed, that the vicar should have one acre of land, where he might conveniently build a house, and two acres of meadow, fit to be mowed, of the demesne of the church; and that he

should

ſhould ſuſtain the ordinary burthens of the church, viz. the procurations of the archdeacon, and ſhould pay yearly to the rector of the church of Adintone, eighteen pence, which the rector of the church of Hadlo uſed to pay to it, time out of mind; and that the prior and brethren ſhould pay to the prior and convent of Rocheſter five ſhillings yearly, as had been accuſtomed to be paid to them from this church from antient time.

On the eſtabliſhment of the preceptory in the adjoining pariſh of Weſt Peckham by thoſe knights, this church was allotted as an appendage to it; in which ſtate it continued till the general diſſolution of their hoſpital in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when that order was ſuppreſſed by an act ſpecially paſſed for the purpoſe, and all their lands and revenues given by it to the king. At which time the parſonage or rectory of Hadlow, appears to have been eſteemed a manor.

King Edward VI. July 16, in his firſt year, granted the rectory and advowſon of Hadlow, to Sir Ralph Fane, and lady Elizabeth Fane his wife, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice.[n] On Sir Ralph Fane's death, lady Elizabeth Fane, his widow, became poſſeſſed of it, and ſoon afterwards alienated one part of it, by the deſcription of the manor of the rectory of Hadlow, together with all houſes, glebes, tithes, and other appurtenances, lying in Hadlow-ward in this pariſh, to Thomas Roydon, eſq. of Eaſt Peckham, whoſe daughter and coheir Elizabeth, married William Twyſden, of Chelmington, who became in her right poſſeſſed of this manor and rectory; and his deſcendant, Sir William Jarvis Twyſden, bart. lately ſold it to Mr. Walter Barton, who is the preſent poſ-

[n] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. p. 6. Roll of Partic. Aug. off. box F. 8. Ibid. Inrolm.

don-

ſeſſor of this tithery, with the manor and appurtenances belonging to it.

The other two parts of the rectory of Hadlow, conſiſting of the tithes of this pariſh, in the tithe wards of Goldwell, alias Coldweld and Stair, as well as the advowſon, remained (after the above-mentioned alienation to Roydon) in the poſſeſſion of lady Eliz. Fane, who in the 1ſt and 2d year of king Philip and queen Mary, alienated the remainder of the parſonage of Hadlow to Henry Fiſher, and he, in the firſt year of queen Elizabeth paſſed it away to Richard Smithe, who next year alienated it to John Rivers; his ſon, Sir George Rivers, poſſeſſed this parſonage, as well as the advowſon of the church, which ſeems to have paſſed with it from lady Fane, and his eldeſt ſon, John Rivers, eſq. was created a baronet, and in the 21ſt year of king James I. procured an act of parliament to *ſettle* as well his lands as thoſe of Sir George Rivers, his father, and to ſettle the inheritance of them upon himſelf and his heirs by dame Dorothy his wife, daughter of Thomas Potter, eſq. of Weſterham. His grandſon and heir, Sir Thomas Rivers, bart. ſon of James Rivers, eſq. who died in his life time, in 1657 conveyed that part of this parſonage, which conſiſted of the tithes ariſing within the ward of Stayer, to Edward Rivers, eſq. ſon of George Rivers, eſq. of this pariſh, next brother to Sir John Rivers, created a baronet as above-mentioned, and he died poſſeſſed of it in 1660, and was buried in this church. His ſon, George Rivers, eſq. poſſeſſed it near ſeventy years, and then dying, by will gave it to his god-ſon, George Rivers, eſq. of the Inner Temple, who in 1737, reſerving to himſelf a life eſtate in this tithery, ſold the reverſion of it to Stephen Hervey, eſq. of London, and he ſoon after Mr. Rivers's death, in 1777, conveyed the fee of it to Mr. Robert Simmons, of Hadlow, who gave it by will to his nephew Mr. William Simmons, the preſent poſſeſſor of this part of the parſonage of Hadlow.

THE

The remaining part of the parſonage of Hadlow, conſiſting of the tithe within Goldwell, commonly called Colweld-ward, paſſed afterwards into the poſſeſſion of Wm. Lea, gent. of Hadlow, whoſe grand-daughter, Mrs. Eliz. Leavens, of Hadlow, in 1701, conveyed it to Mr. John Weekley, of Town Malling, who in 1738 gave it by will to his brother, Mr. George Weekley, late of Ware, in Hertfordſhire, on whoſe death in 1777 it deſcended to his only daughter and heir, Miſs Jane Weekley, ſince whoſe death this tithery has been ſold by her deviſees to Mr. Thomas Swayne, of Tunbridge, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

THE ADVOWSON of the vicarage of Hadlow ſeems to have continued in the Rivers family, till the death of Sir George Rivers, in 1734, when, on diſputes ariſing concerning the deviſe of his eſtates, they were put into chancery, and after ſeveral decrees and proceſs at law, this advowſon, among his other eſtates, was in 1743 ordered by the court to be ſold,[o] and it was accordingly conveyed to the Rev. Arthur Spender, vicar of this pariſh, who died in 1750, and his ſon Arthur, dying unmarried, it came to his brother, Mr. John Spender, of Northamptonſhire, who ſold it not long ſince to Mr. Monypenny, who is the preſent patron of it.

It is valued in the king's books at 18l. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 6s.

The income of this vicarage greatly depends on the hop-plantations in this pariſh, which have been ſome years ſo advantageous as to increaſe the income of it to 240l. per annum.

In 1608 the communicants in this pariſh were in number three hundred and ſeventy-ſix.

[o] See Chafford, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 252.

CHURCH

CHURCH OF HADLOW.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Prior and brethren of the hoſpital of St. John of Jeruſalem.	*Adam de Fontibus*, anno 1216.[p]

VICARS.

John Stobe.[q]
John Starkey, A. M. 1596.[r]
..... *Grimes*, 1642.[s]
..... *Rany*, obt. 1696.
..... *Brooks.*
George Oliver, obt. 1718.
..... *Richards*, 1720.
Arthur Spender, A. M. 1750.
Mr. James Berdmere. ..... *William Fitzherbert*, obt. 1797.[t]

[p] Reg. Roff. p. 381.
[q] He lies buried in this church.
[r] He was vicar in 1626. MSS. Twyſden.
[s] He was ſequeſtered, and living till the reſtoration, had afterwards the vicarage of East Peckham. Walker's Suff. of the Clergy, part ii. p. 252.
[t] In 1756 a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding Horndeh on the Hill, in Eſſex, with this vicarage. He was alſo ſub-dean of St. Paul's, and a prieſt of his majeſty's chapel royal.

CAPEL.

SOUTHWARD from Hadlow lies Capel, ſo called from the church of it having been always eſteemed as *a chapel only*, as it is at this time, to the church of Tudeley adjoining; though as to its civil juriſdiction it has always been a diſtinct pariſh of itſelf. Part of it is in the hundred of Wachlingſtone, but the greateſt part of it, together with the church, is within the lowy of Tunbridge.

THIS LITTLE PARISH is ſituated oppoſite to Hadlow, on the other or ſouthern ſide of the river Medway, about a mile from it, it lies obſcurely in a woody country, and is but little known or frequented, the ſurface of it is very low and flat, except in the middle of it, where there is a ſmall riſe, on which the church ſtands; here the ſoil is ſand and ſtone, but in

the reſt of the pariſh it is a deep miry clay, the hedge rows broad, and filled with large and ſpreading oaks, which makes it exceeding gloomy. It is a wet place, full of ponds, and watered beſides by two ſmall ſtreams, on the eaſt and weſt ſides of the pariſh, which runs from hence into the Medway; towards the ſouth it joins to the Southfrith woods and the pariſh of Pembury.

The manor and borough of Hadlow, in Tunbridge, claim over that part of this pariſh which is within the lowy, which is here called the borough of Hadlow Capel.

TATLINGBURY is a manor in this pariſh, which as appears by the Book of Knights Fees, taken in the reign of king Edward I. was part of the poſſeſſions of the prior and convent of Tunbridge, with which it was ſurrendered up in king Henry VIIIth.'s reign, and was given by the king in his 17th year, towards the endowment of cardinal Wolſey's college, founded by him in Oxford,[n] but that great prelate being caſt in a *præmunire*, four years afterwards, all the poſſeſſions of the college, which for want of time had not been firmly ſettled on it, became forfeited to the crown, from whence this manor was afterwards granted to the elder branch of the family of Fane, ſettled at Badſell, in the adjoining pariſh of Tudeley, who became earls of Weſtmoreland, the laſt of whom, John, earl of Weſtmoreland, died *ſ. p.* in 1762, ſince which it has, with Mereworth and the reſt of his eſtates in this county, at length come by the limitations of his will, to the right hon. Thomas lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of it.

There are no *parochial charities*.

The number of poor relieved are about fifty.

[n] Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 1037. Tan. Mon. præf. p. xxxv. Ryſh. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 156.

CAPEL

CAPEL is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church is dedicated to St. Thomas Becket the Martyr. The body of it has lately been rebuilt of brick; the chancel ſeems very antient. It has a tower at the weſt end, with a ſmall ſpire ſet on it. It has long been a chapel annexed to the church of Tudeley.

The rectory of Capel, with the chapel belonging to it, was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the knights hoſpitallers, by whom it was annexed to the juriſdiction of their preceptory of Weſt Peckham.

In the 22d year of king Henry VII. the prior and brethren of that hoſpital, let to ferm to Sir Thomas Starkey, chaplain, their chapel, commonly called Capel, together with all tithes, lands, and appurtenances, woods and underwoods only excepted, to hold for his life, he being beneficed in it, paying the yearly rent of forty ſhillings to the prior, and duly ſerving either by himſelf, or by ſome able curate in his ſtead, the cure of the chapel, and the pariſhioners of it; and further, that he ſhould repair and maintain the manſion of it, and the barn and little ſtable belonging to it in a covering of ſtraw, with other covenants therein mentioned.

On the diſſolution of the order of knights hoſpitallers, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. by an act ſpecially paſſed for the purpoſe, their lands and revenues were given to the king, who that year demiſed this rectory and chapel of Capel, belonging to the preceptory or commandry of Peckham, otherwiſe called *the Chantry Magiſtrale*, together with the manſion of it, and all the meſſuages, tithes, lands, &c. belonging to it, to Sir John Baker, at the yearly rent of four pounds. After which, the fee of this rectory, with the advowſon of the chapel, ſeems to have been granted to Sir Ralph Fane, and he, in the 37th year

of the ſame reign, alienated it to Thomas Stone, of Hadlow, yeoman.

How it paſſed back again into the ſame family of Fane, I do not find; but it was for ſome length of time, together with the above-mentioned manor of Tatlingbury, poſſeſſed by the elder branch of it, earls of Weſtmoreland, the laſt of whom, John, earl of Weſtmoreland, died *ſ. p.* in 1762, ſince which it has, by his will, in like manner with the reſt of his eſtates in this county, at length deſcended to the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of it.

The vicars of Tudeley ſerve the cure of this pariſh and chapelry, united to that church as before-mentioned.

It is not in charge in the king's books.

TUNBRIDGE.

THE next pariſh north-weſtward from Capel is that of Tunbridge, written in Saxon, *Tunbryege*, or the town of Bridges. In Domeſday, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, it is written TONEBRIGA, and is ſuppoſed to take its name from the ſeveral bridges which are built over the five ſtreams of the river Medway, as they paſs through this town.

THE PARISH of Tunbridge is very large, extending ſix miles in length from north to ſouth, and about ſix in breadth; its circumference is ſuppoſed to be about twelve miles, though the bounds of it have not been perambulated for many years. From its great extent, the ſituation, as well as the ſoil, is very different in the ſeveral parts of it; it lies in general very low and moiſt, owing to the different ſtreams of the Medway, which flow through it, and at times inundate it to a conſiderable extent. From the nature of its ſoil it is extremely kindly for oak timber, of which there

there are numbers of large ſized trees throughout it, the whole is eſteemed a very healthy air; the ſoil is in general a ſtiff clay, much of which, eſpecially in the graſs lands on each ſide the river is very fertile and good fatting land, at the ſame time much of it is productive of good crops of corn and hops, of which there are ſeveral plantations. At the ſouth-weſt part of the pariſh the ground riſes to the quarry hill, where the ſoil becomes a ſand covering the quarry ſtone rock, about a mile beyond which is the hamlet of Southborough, at the extremity of the pariſh that way. The north and ſouth parts of this pariſh on the eaſt ſide, are covered with the woods of the north and ſouth Frith, the former of which joins to Weſt Peckham, and the latter, of much larger ſize, being upwards of three miles in length, and two in breadth, extending to within a very ſmall diſtance of Tunbridge-wells, in Speldhurſt. On the northern ſide of the latter, about a mile and a half from the town, on a pleaſing eminence, is the manſion of Somerhill, Mr. Woodgate's; the ſtate apartment of this large and venerable manſion, is noble and ſpacious, and retains its original form, as well as much of its gilding and other decorations, and the whole, by a repair made with a proper attention to the ſtyle of its architecture, might be rendered a moſt magnificent reſidence.

Along the weſtern ſide of the Frith woods there runs a ſtream, which comes from Speldhurſt, and about midway here turns a mill, uſed for the manufacturing of that ſort of gunpowder, uſually called *battle gunpowder*, it is ſituated at a place in it called Old Forge-farm, from its being in queen Elizabeth's time an iron foundery, ſubject to her uſe and directions. In 1763 an act paſſed to enable the proprietors to continue to work the mill as *a peſtle mill*, which is otherwiſe prohibited by law.

The town of Tunbridge is ſituated nearly in the middle of the pariſh, about thirty miles from London,

on the ſides of the high road leading from thence to Tunbridge-wells, and likewiſe to Cowden, &c. and to Rye, in Suſſex, to which places the road divides at the ſouth end of the town; another road branches off from the middle of the town eaſtward through Hadlow to Mereworth, and thence to Maidſtone.

The river Medway croſſes the town near the ſouth end of it, in five ſtreams, over which there are as many bridges. The ſouthern was formerly the main ſtream of the river, but the northern, which was dug entirely to form the inner moat of the caſtle, is now the only navigable and main branch of it, over which there was built in 1775, on the foundations of the former one, which was grown ruinous, a new ſtone bridge of three arches, which coſt eleven hundred pounds, at the county's expence. It was built from a deſign of Mr. Milne, but is calculated more for utility than ornament. Juſt below this bridge there is a ſpacious wharf, on which a great quantity of the largeſt oak timber which is brought out of the Wealds of Kent and Suſſex, is continually laid, till it can be conveniently wafted down the river to the royal docks at Chatham and Sheerneſs, and elſewhere, principally for the uſe of the navy. Above this, the Medway, though narrow, is navigable for ſmall boats for about a mile, where the principal channel comes from Penſhurſt, to which, by all appearances, it might with eaſe be made navigable, ſhould the commiſſioners, who are impowered to compleat the navigation as far as Foreſt-row, in Suſſex, think it an object of importance.

THE CASTLE of Tunbridge ſtood cloſe to the river, juſt above the new bridge above-mentioned, at the ſouth-weſt corner of the preſent town, the ruins of it are venerable, and are conſpicuous for ſome diſtance round it, though there are at this time little more remaining of it than the inner gateway, a building flanked by two large circular towers of great

thickneſs

thickneſs and ſtrength, a part of the walls round the circuit of it, and the high mount within them of the keep or dungeon, all which are convincing proofs that when in its proſperity it was a place of no ſmall ſtrength and conſequence; the walls formerly incloſed ſix acres of ground. The fortifications ſeem to have conſiſted of theſe two ſpacious round towers, of about ſeventy feet diameter, communicating with each other by a ſtrong high wall of ſixty feet, from eaſt to weſt, theſe are united to the great keep on the top of the mount, the baſe of which is the circle of an acre, and had a covered way from it to the gateway of the caſtle, from which there was another covered way over the chapel to the ſouth-eaſt tower. The governor's domeſtic apartments were in the area, parallel to the ſouth wall, which overlooks the river, and unites the two towers at the extremities of it as above mentioned.

There were formerly three moats which incircled this caſtle, the innermoſt of which was made by a new ſtream dug for that purpoſe, now the principal one of the Medway, over which was a ſtone bridge, which was joined by a ſtrong broad wall of ſtone to the ſouth-eaſt round tower of theſe above-mentioned, and kept up a large head of water in the moat which was between the gateway and the *barbican*, or watch tower. The other two moats incloſed the then town of Tunbridge, the outermoſt of them had a draw-bridge over it at the north end of the town. Theſe moats were capable of being filled or emptied at pleaſure, by a large wear and bank, which extended the ſpace of two miles, towards Lyghe.*

In former times the town of Tunbridge was little more than the ſuburbs belonging to the caſtle, and being ſituated between the two outer moats of it, partook of the ſame viciſſitudes of fortune, as that

* See Archæol. vol. vi. p. 27.

eminent fortreſs did, in the ſeveral ſieges it underwent, particularly in king Henry IIId.'s reign, Gilbert, earl of Glouceſter, the noble owner of it, having aſſociated with the rebellious barons, the king beſieged this caſtle, and having burnt down the town, afterwards took the caſtle in 1264. The preſent town is ſituated for the moſt part northward of the caſtle, on the riſe of a hill. Since the river Medway has been made navigable up to it, the trade of it has been greatly increaſed, as well as the wealth and number of the inhabitants, there being at this time not leſs than one hundred freeholders reſiding in it, ſo that it is now in a flouriſhing ſtate, many good houſes having been erected in it, and ſeveral perſons of genteel fortune induced by ſo healthy and pleaſant a ſituation, and a well ſupplied market, have fixed their reſidence in it, particularly on the hill at the north end of the town are two handſome well-built houſes, one late the reſidence of Thomas Hooker, eſq. late lord of this manor, and the other of George Children, eſq. the latter of whom poſſeſſes a good eſtate in this county, and is deſcended of a family who were for many generations ſettled at a houſe called from them *Childrens*, ſituated at Lower, or Nether-ſtreet, in Hilden-borough, in this pariſh, who bore for their arms, *Or, a ſaltier engrailed gules*. A deſcendant of them was John Children, eſq. who married Jane, daughter of Robert Weller, eſq. of Tunbridge, by whom he had one ſon George, and two daughters, of whom Anne was married to Mr. Richard Davenport, ſurgeon, of London, and Jane to Chriſtian Albert de Paſſow, a Daniſh gentleman. He died in 1772, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, George Children, eſq. now of Tunbridge, barriſter at law, who married Suſanna, ſince deceaſed, the ſecond daughter of the Rev. Thomas M. Jordan, rector of Barming, by whom he has one ſon John George.

Near the above houſe of Mr. Children, but on the oppoſite ſide of the road, is the free grammar ſchool, a well-

well-built venerable manſion, of which more will be treated of below.

THE TOWN, the principal ſtreet of which is very broad and airy, is from its ſituation at the riſe of the hill, naturally neat and clean, and is kept exceedingly ſo under the care of two town wardens, who are choſen at the court leet of the manor every three years, and employ for that purpoſe a yearly rent of about thirty-two pounds per annum, ariſing from certain lands, called *the town lands*, lying near the town, given by perſons unknown, many years ago, for this uſe. A large market is kept in it for cattle, on the firſt Tueſday in every month; and another market for meat, poultry, &c. on a Friday weekly. A fair is held here on three days yearly, on Aſh Wedneſday, on July 5, and on Oct. 29, for live cattle and toys.

John Willford, citizen of London, about the middle of king Henry VIII.'s reign, raiſed, at his own expence, the great ſtone cauſeway at the end of the town, in the high road towards London.

This town had formerly the privilege as *a borough*, of ſending burgeſſes to parliament; but there is but one return to be found of its having ſo done, to the parliament held in the 23d year of king Edward I.'s reign, at Weſtminſter; when John German and John Martin were returned for it.[x] An account of the dreadful ſtorm, which happened on Friday, Aug. 19, 1763, which entered this county at Tunbridge-Wells, and directing its courſe north-north-eaſt, ſpread havock and deſolation wherever it vented its fury, has already been given under the deſcription of Maidſtone.

OUR BOTANISTS have obſerved the following ſcarce ſpecies of plants growing in this pariſh:

Lichen parvus repens, foliolis anguſtis non ſquamoſis, ceranoides; *by Mr. Buddle, near the town of Tunbridge.*

[x] Willis's *Notitia Parl.* p. 85.

Lichenoides

Lichenoides non tubuloſum ramulis ſcutellis nigris terminatis, *called alſo* muſcus coralloides Tunbringenſis bracteolis nigerrimis, *found by Mr. Petiver, on the rocks near this place.*

Marrubium flore albo, odorem ſed languidum ballotes ſpirat, folia pallidiora & minora ſunt; *white horehound; found in this pariſh by Mr. Dare, apothecary of London.*

Cyperus minor paluſtris, hirſutus paniculis albis paleacis; *obſerved by Mr. Du Bois, plentifully near Tunbridge.*[y]

Gentiana paluſtris anguſtifolia, *marſh gentian*, or *calathian violet; found by Dr. Wilmer, near it.*

Trichomanes Tunbrigenſe frondibus pinnatis, pinnis oblongis dichotomis decurrentibus dentatis, Tunbridge trichomanes; *found in the apertures or chaſms of the rocks by Mr. Dare.*

An account of the noted medicinal waters, uſually called Tunbridge-Wells, ſituated about five miles ſouthward from the town of Tunbridge, has already been given under the pariſh of Speldhurſt, in which they are moſtly ſituated.

TUNBRIDGE has given TITLE to ſeveral illuſtrious families.

Edward Stafford, the laſt duke of Buckingham, in the reign of king Henry VIII. bore, among his other titles inherited from his anceſtors, that of baron of Tunbridge;[z] but being convicted of high treaſon in the 13th year of that reign, he was executed, and an act paſſed anno 14 and 15 of that reign, for his attainder, and though another act paſſed the ſame year for the reſtitution of his ſon Henry in blood, yet it did not extend to his honors and lands.

Richard Burgh, earl of Clanrickard, &c. was by king James I. in his 22d year created baron of Somer-

[y] Raii Synopſis. p. 63, 66, 239, 427.
[z] Lel. Itin. vol. v. p. 111. York's Honor, p. 92.

hill,

hill, the name of the ſeat he had built in this pariſh, and viſcount Tunbridge, and in the 4th year of king Charles I. earl of St. Albans. He died in 1636, and was ſuccdeded in titles by his ſon and heir Ulick, who was afterwards created Marquis of Clanrickard. He died without male iſſue, and his titles, among which was that of viſcount Tunbridge, became extinct.

William Henry de Zuleiſten de Naſſaw was in the 7th year of king William III. anno 1695, created baron of Enfield, viſcount Tunbridge, and earl of Rochford, in Eſſex. He was the ſon of Frederick de Naſſaw, lord of Zuleiſten, in Holland, and natural ſon of Henry, prince of Orange, the king's grandfather. The earl of Rochford, viſcount Tunbridge, died in 1708, in whoſe deſcendants thoſe titles have continued down to the right hon. William Henry Naſſau, the preſent earl of Rochford and viſcount Tunbridge.

THOUGH THERE IS NO PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION of this place in the ſurvey of Domeſday, yet the poſſeſſor of it, Richard de Tonebridge, alias Fitz Giſlibert, is frequently mentioned in it, as is the diſtrict which he was lord of round about it, called in it *Lewua Ricardi de Tonebrige*, the lowy of Richard de Tonebridge, as may be ſeen in the ſeveral parts of that record, inſerted in different pariſhes throughout this hiſtory.

This Richard was named Fitz Gilbert, as being the eldeſt ſon of Gilbert, earl of Brion, in Normandy, ſon of Geffry, natural ſon of Richard, the firſt duke of Normandy of that name.

He was one of the principal perſons, who came into England with the Conqueror, and was with him in the memorable battle of Haſtings, by which the duke obtained the crown of this realm, in reward for which ſervice, and in regard of his near alliance in blood, he had great honors and large poſſeſſions, both in Normandy and England, beſtowed on him.

Towards

Lichenoides non tubuloſum ramulis ſcutellis nigris terminatis, *called alſo* muſcus coralloides Tunbringenſis bracteolis nigerrimis, *found by Mr. Petiver, on the rocks near this place.*

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An account of the noted medicinal waters, uſually called Tunbridge-Wells, ſituated about five miles ſouthward from the town of Tunbridge, has already been given under the pariſh of Speldhurſt, in which they are moſtly ſituated.

TUNBRIDGE has given TITLE to ſeveral illuſtrious families.

Edward Stafford, the laſt duke of Buckingham, in the reign of king Henry VIII. bore, among his other titles inherited from his anceſtors, that of baron of Tunbridge;[z] but being convicted of high treaſon in the 13th year of that reign, he was executed, and an act paſſed anno 14 and 15 of that reign, for his attainder, and though another act paſſed the ſame year for the reſtitution of his ſon Henry in blood, yet it did not extend to his honors and lands.

Richard Burgh, earl of Clanrickard, &c. was by king James I. in his 22d year created baron of Somer-

[y] Raii Synopſis. p. 63, 66, 239, 427.
[z] Lel. Itin. vol. v. p. 111. York's Honor, p. 92.

hill,

hill, the name of the ſeat he had built in this pariſh, and viſcount Tunbridge, and in the 4th year of king Charles I. earl of St. Albans. He died in 1636, and was ſuccdeded in titles by his ſon and heir Ulick, who was afterwards created Marquis of Clanrickard. He died without male iſſue, and his titles, among which was that of viſcount Tunbridge, became extinct.

William Henry de Zuleiſten de Naſſaw was in the 7th year of king William III. anno 1695, created baron of Enfield, viſcount Tunbridge, and earl of Rochford, in Eſſex. He was the ſon of Frederick de Naſſaw, lord of Zuleiſten, in Holland, and natural ſon of Henry, prince of Orange, the king's grandfather. The earl of Rochford, viſcount Tunbridge, died in 1708, in whoſe deſcendants thoſe titles have continued down to the right hon. William Henry Naſſau, the preſent earl of Rochford and viſcount Tunbridge.

THOUGH THERE IS NO PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION of this place in the ſurvey of Domeſday, yet the poſſeſſor of it, Richard de Tonebridge, alias Fitz Giſlibert, is frequently mentioned in it, as is the diſtrict which he was lord of round about it, called in it *Lenua Ricardi de Tonebrige*, the lowy of Richard de Tonebridge, as may be ſeen in the ſeveral parts of that record, inſerted in different pariſhes throughout this hiſtory.

This Richard was named Fitz Gilbert, as being the eldeſt ſon of Gilbert, earl of Brion, in Normandy, ſon of Geffry, natural ſon of Richard, the firſt duke of Normandy of that name.

He was one of the principal perſons, who came into England with the Conqueror, and was with him in the memorable battle of Haſtings, by which the duke obtained the crown of this realm, in reward for which ſervice, and in regard of his near alliance in blood, he had great honors and large poſſeſſions, both in Normandy and England, beſtowed on him.

Towards

Towards the end of the Conqueror's reign, he obtained the town and caſtle of Tunbridge, or *Tonebruge* as it was then called, from the archbiſhop of Canterbury, in lieu of the caſtle of Brion, each being meaſured to the ſame extent; and having fixed his reſidence in his new acquired demeſnes, was from thence called Richard de Tunbridge, and the diſtrict round about him, his lowy. Upon the death of the Conqueror, he favored the title of Robert Curthoſe againſt William Rufus, who beſieged him in his caſtle of Tunbridge, on the ſurrender of which he ſubmitted, and ſwore allegiance to him. From which time to the death of king Henry I. nothing remarkable occurs relating to him, and ſoon after that he was ſlain in Wales, and was buried at St. Neots, in Huntingdonſhire, being ſucceeded in all his poſſeſſions in England by Gilbert de Tunbridge, his eldeſt ſon, who in his father's life-time, in the 12th year of William Rufus, taking part with Robert, earl of Morton, then in rebellion, he fortified himſelf in his caſtle of Tunbridge in the earl's behalf; but the king, after a ſiege of two days, obliged Gilbert, who was wounded, to ſurrender it up. He died about the 12th year of king Henry I. anno 1111, leaving four ſons, of whom Gilbert, the ſecond, ſurnamed Strongbow, was by king Stephen, in his 3d year, created Earl of Pembroke; Walter, the third ſon, was founder of the abbey of Tinterne, in Wales; and Baldwin, the fourth, aſſumed the ſurname of Clare.

He was ſucceeded in this manor and caſtle by his eldeſt ſon Richard, who aſſumed the ſurname of Clare, from his lordſhip of that name in Suffolk, and was the firſt of his family who had the title of earl of Hertford,[a] bearing for his arms, *Or, three chevrons gules.* He founded the priory of Tunbridge, and was ſlain by the Welſh, in the latter end of the above reign, leaving ſeveral children, of whom Gilbert, the eldeſt ſon, be-

[a] See Camd. Brit. p. 360, 442. Reg. Roff. p. 665.

came

came his father's heir, and had the title likewiſe of earl of Clare. He gave the church of Tonebruge to the monks of Lewes, in Suſſex, and dying in the 17th year of king Stephen, *ſ. p.* was buried in the cell at Clare, which Gilbert his grandfather had given to the monks of Bec, in Normandy. He was ſucceeded by Roger his brother, who likewiſe bore the title of earl of Clare. In the 9th year of king Henry II. he was ſummoned to appear at Weſtminſter, by archbiſhop Becket, to do him homage for the caſtle of Tunbridge, which he aſſerted was held of him in right of his archbiſhopric; this the earl, through the king's perſuaſions, refuſed, alledging that he held it by military ſervice of the king, and not of the archbiſhop, who upon this let the matter drop, without purſuing it any further.[b] In the 12th year of that reign, upon levying the aid for marrying the king's daughter, he certified his knights fees to be one hundred and forty-nine in different counties. His gifts were many to different religious houſes, in manors and lands, and among others, he gave to the monks of St. Auguſtine's, near Canterbury, a ſtag every year out of his foreſt of Tonebrugge; to the knights hoſpitallers, the church of Tunbridge; and to the canons of the priory of Begeham, in Suſſex, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, twenty-five hogs yearly, in the ſouthern parts of his foreſt of Tunbridge, free of all pannage. He died in the 19th year of Henry II. leaving one ſon and heir.

Richard de Clare, who married Amicia, ſecond daughter of William, earl of Glouceſter, and at length ſole heir to that earldom,[c] by whom he had Gilbert de Clare, who was the firſt who was earl of Glouceſter and Hertford jointly. He was one of the chief of the barons who put themſelves in arms againſt king John, upon which, Falcatius de Brent, who com-

[b] Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p 210 Rapin, vol. i. p. 227.
[c] See concerning him in Prynne, p. 58 and 130.

manded

manded a party of the king's forces, took the caſtle of Tunbridge from the earl by force, and kept it for the king's uſe, till peace was eſtabliſhed between them, which was not till the beginning of the next reign of king Henry III.

Richard, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him as his heir, and being then a minor, the guardianſhip of his lands and honors, was committed to Hubert de Burgh, juſtice of England, and among them the caſtle of Tunbridge.

Richard, archbiſhop of Canterbury, complained of this to the king, alledging its being a fief of the archbiſhopric; to which the king replied, that the wardſhip of the young earl of right belonged to him; and therefore it was his prerogative to diſpoſe of it to his juſticiary, during the heir's minority; this anſwer not ſatisfying the archbiſhop, he immediately departed to carry his complaints to Rome, where he obtained a bull from the pope, authorizing him to take poſſeſſion of this caſtle, during the earl's nonage. But he reaped no benefit from this; for he died on his journey home in 1234, being ſucceeded in the ſee of Canterbury by St. Edmund, to whom the king is ſaid to have granted the cuſtody of the lands belonging to the caſtle and honor of Tonebregge and Bradeſted, till the earl ſhould be of age. Perhaps this grant might be made two years afterwards,[a] at the time this archbiſhop married the king to his queen Eleanor.

In the 29th year of that reign, on the aid for marrying the king's daughter, the earl paid for three hundred and four knights fees and an half, which he held beſides thoſe in Kent, which were twelve and an half, and in the 34th year of it, the earl of Glouceſter was preſent, with a noble attendance, at the ſolemn inthronization of archbiſhop Boniface, and exerciſed at it the office of chief butler and ſteward. Notwithſtanding

[a] Somn. by Batteley, Append. p. 12.

which

which there appears to have been great contests and disputes between them, as well concerning the customs and services required by the archbishop of him, as the fees for performing those offices; all which were settled by a mutual agreement or composition made between them, a few years afterwards. In which it was agreed, as to the customs and services which the archbishop claimed of the earl, for the manors of Tunebregge and Hanlo, with the whole lowy of Tunbridge; and for the manors of Vyelestun, Horsmundenne, Meletune, and Pettes, with their appurtenances, that he should have in future of the earl homage, the service of four knights fees, and suit at the archbishop's court, for the manors of Tunebregge and Hanlo, together with the lowy; and further, that he should be the archbishop's high steward and his chief butler, at the great feast of his inthronization, and perform suit at the archbishop's court at Otford, for the manor of Bradested; and homage, and the service of four knights fees, for the manors of Vyelestun, Horsmundenne, Meletune, and Pettes. And also for the manor of Vyelestun, suit at the archbishop's court at Otford, and for the manors of Horsmundenne, Meletune, and Pettes, suit at the archbishop's court at Canterbury. And it was further agreed between them, that whenever an archbishop should be inthroned in the church of Canterbury, the earl should receive, for the service of steward, seven robes of scarlet, thirty gallons of wine, fifty pounds of wax for the use of his own lights on the feast, the livery of hay and corn for eighty horses for two nights, and the dishes and salts, which should be set before the archbishop at the first course in the feast, and at the departure of the earl, entertainment for three days, at the cost of the archbishop, and his successors, at their nearest manors by the four quarters of Kent, whersoever the earl should chuse it, *(ad sanguinem minuendum)* so that the earl did not come there but with fifty horse only, to be entertained.

And

And for the ſervice of butler, ſeven robes of ſcarlet, twenty gallons of wine, fifty pounds of wax, livery of hay and oats for ſixty horſes for two nights, and the cup with which he ſhould ſerve before the archbiſhop, with other fees of a lower ſort, as are more particularly mentioned in it.[e]

His deſcendants, poſſeſſors of the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge, &c. continued after this to perform theſe ſervices at the archbiſhop's inthronization. In particular, Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter, received his whole fee of archbiſhop Winchelſea in 1294, as by this compoſition for his ſtewardſhips and butlerſhip; and he received of archbiſhop Walter in 1313, for his fee, two hundred marcs. Hugh de Audley, earl of Glouceſter, received of archbiſhop Stratford, in 1333, one hundred marcs; and the earl of Stafford, lord of Tunbridge, was at the inthronization of archbiſhop Sudbury, in 1375, and received for his fee forty marcs, and a cup of ſilver gilt. And laſtly, Edward, duke of Buckingham, received the ſame of archbiſhop Warham, when the duke executed the ſtewardſhip in perſon, and the butlerſhip by his deputy, Sir Thomas Bourchier.[f]

In the 44th year of king Henry III. the earl obtained the king's licence to wall and embattle his town of Tunbridge, and to make caſtles of his houſes in Eſſex and Suffolk. He died two years afterwards, at John, lord Criol's houſe, at Eſchemerfield, in this county, being ſaid by ſome to have been poiſoned at the table of Peter de Savoy, the queen's uncle. His body was buried in the choir at Tewkſbury, on the right hand of his father; his bowels at Canterbury, and his heart in Tunbridge church.

Gilbert, his eldeſt ſon, ſurnamed Rufus, ſucceeded him as earl of Glouceſter and Hertford. Soon after which, aſſociating himſelf with the rebellious barons,

[e] Regiſt. of Chriſt Church, Cant. cart. 177. MSS.
[f] Battely's Somner Append. pt. 12, 20.

prince

prince Edward, the king's ſon, beſieged this caſtle and took it, and in it the counteſs of Glouceſter, the beſieged having firſt ſet fire to and burnt down the town. After which the caſtle was garriſoned with the king's troops, and the counteſs was ſet at liberty.

Before the end of that reign the earl, after having changed from one ſide to the other, was reconciled to the royal favor, and upon the king's death, and prince Edward's arrival from the holy land, the earl entertained him with his whole retinue moſt honorably for many days, in this caſtle. Soon after which he was divorced from Alice his wife, and anno 17 Edward I. married Joane of Acres, the king's daughter, in conſequence of which he then entailed all his caſtles and manors in England and Wales, and among them thoſe of Tunbridge, Yalding, Bradſted, Hadlow, Dachurſt, &c. on his iſſue by her; and in default, to her heirs and aſſigns, in caſe ſhe ſhould ſurvive him.

In the 20th year of that reign, on a complaint being made againſt the earl in parliament, of his having committed great depredations by force and arms on the earl of Hereford's lands in Wales, his lands and caſtles were ſeized, and adjudged to be forfeited during his life, and he himſelf was committed to priſon till he had made an atonement. During this ſpace of time, in the 22d year of that reign, prince Edward, the king's ſon, who was left his father's *locum tenens* during his abſence in Flanders, reſided at Tunbridge caſtle in Auguſt that year, where in his chamber, in the preſence of Sir Reginald de Grey, and Sir William de Badeleſmere, and others, he delivered the king's ſeal to John de Langton, the king's chancellor. The earl died at his caſtle of Monmouth in the 24th year of the above reign, and was buried in Tewkſbury church, on the left hand of his father. He left by Joane his wife, who ſurvived him, one ſon and heir, Gilbert, and three daughters, who will be further mentioned hereafter.

Joane, his wife, became enfeoffed of all the lands belonging to him in his earldoms, and ſoon afterwards re-married a plain eſquire, named Ralph de Monthermer, at which, though the king was at firſt highly incenſed, yet being reconciled afterwards, he had many marks of favor conferred on him, and in conſideration of his ſervices in Scotland, he had reſtored to him, and Joane his wife, the caſtle and honor of Tonebrugge, with other lands in the counties of Kent, Surry, and Suſſex, and he had likewiſe poſſeſſion granted of all the lands belonging to the great earldom of Glouceſter, to hold by the ſervice of fifty knights fees; upon which he aſſumed the title of earl of Glouceſter,[g] which, on the death of Joane his wife, in the 1ſt year of king Edward II. he entirely laid aſide, though he lived ſeveral years afterwards, having had by her two ſons, Thomas and Edward; the former of whom was ſlain in a ſea fight in 1340, leaving Margaret, his daughter and heir, who married John de Montacute, from whom the ſeveral branches of the family of Montacute, or Montague, for they are one and the ſame name, at different times ennobled, derived their deſcent.

Gilbert de Clare, the only ſon and heir of the late Gilbert, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, by Joane of Acres, his wife, on her death had poſſeſſion granted of the lands of his inheritance, and bore the titles likewiſe of his father's earldoms. Being captain of the vanguard of the king's army in Scotland, he was ſlain in the battle of Bannockſbourne, near Strivelin, in the 7th year of that reign, and his body was buried in the abbey church of Tewkſbury.[h] On his death, without ſurviving iſſue, his three ſiſters became his coheirs, viz. Alianore, the wife of Hugh le Deſpencer the younger, and afterwards of William de la Zouch, lord of Glamorgan and Morgannock; Margaret, then wife of Hugh

[g] Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 215 and 217. Cott. Rec. p. 4.
[h] Willis's Mitred Abbeys, vol. i. p. 176.

de

de Audley, who was her ſcond huſband, ſhe having been firſt married to Piers de Gaveſton, created earl of Cornwall, by whom ſhe had a daughter, who died without iſſue, and Elizabeth, formerly the wife of John de Burgh, ſon and heir of the earl of Ulſter, afterwards of Theobald, lord Verdon,[i] and then of Roger Damory.

On the partition of their inheritance, in the 11th year of king Edward II. anno 1317, the caſtle and manor of Tunbridge, with other eſtates in theſe parts, were allotted to Hugh de Audley, in right of Margaret his wife; at which time it appears, there were ſix knights fees held of this caſtle. But he ſoon afterwards confederating with the diſcontented lords, this caſtle, among others belonging to him, was ſeized on by the king, and the cuſtody of it was committed to Bartholomew de Badleſmere, who ſoon afterwards going over to the earl's party, the king conferred this truſt next year on Henry de Cobham, whoſe deputy, of the name of Crevequer, having conſpired to ſeize the caſtle for the uſe of the enemy, the king ordered it to be demoliſhed, and Crevequer was hanged,[k] but it appears by a writ of king Edward II. in his 16th year, that Tunbridge caſtle was ſtill preſerved, being one of the four places then appointed by the king for keeping the records and charters of the realm.

In the 1ſt year of king Edward III. anno 1326, upon his allegation in parliament, that there were ſeveral errors in the proſecution had in the former reign againſt him, he had reſtitution granted him of all his caſtles, manors and lands, then in the king's hands. And in the 11th year of it, in conſideration of his ſervices and wife's deſcent, was in parliament created earl of Glouceſter. He died in the 21ſt year of that reign, leaving by Margaret his wife, who was buried in Tun-

[i] Sandford, in his Gen. Hiſtory, p. 142.
[k] Cott. Libr. MSS. Veſp. A. 5, fol. 69, No. 22.

bridge priory, beſide her huſband) an only daughter heir Margaret, then married to Ralph, lord Stafford. The arms of Audley, *Gules, a fret or*, and likewiſe of Stafford impaling Audley, are carved on the roof of the cloyſters of Chriſt-church, Canterbury, as are thoſe of Stafford ſingly, being, *Or, a chevron gules*.

Ralph, lord Stafford, was deſcended from Robert de Stafford, who in the Conqueror's reign was poſſeſſed of great eſtates in different counties, particularly in Staffordſhire, and was the eldeſt ſon of Edmund, lord Stafford, by Margaret his wife, daughter of Ralph, lord Baſſet, of Drayton. In the 18th year of king Edward II. he was knighted and made a banneret, after which he became an active perſon in king Edward the IIId.'s wars, who conferred upon him that great office of Seneſchal of Aquitane, and next year he had an eminent command in the van of the army, under the black prince, in the famous battle of Creſſy, where the Engliſh obtained a glorious victory, for after it, he with Sir Reginald de Cobham, and three heralds, being ſent to view thoſe ſlain on the part of the enemy, they were found to be, eleven great princes, eighty bannerets, twelve hundred knights, and more than thirty thouſand common ſoldiers. In the 21ſt year of that reign, he obtained, in conſideration of his ſervices, a ſpecial poſſeſſion of all thoſe lands which Hugh de Audley, earl of Glouceſter, deceaſed, held of the inheritance of Margaret his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of Gilbert, earl of Glouceſter, and ſoon afterwards was elected one of the knights of the garter at the firſt inſtitution of it by king Edward III.[1] and in the 25th year of it, was advanced to the title of earl of Stafford.

This great earl died, far advanced in years, at Tunbridge, in the 46th year of that reign, and was buried in the priory here, with Margaret his wife, at the

[1] Dugdale's Baronetage, vol. i. p. 160.

feet

ſeet of her father and mother, being in right of his wife poſſeſſed of the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge, with its members, Datchurſt and Hadloo. His character is thus expreſſed by an old writer, *Homo quondam, validus, fortis, audax, bellicoſus, in armis ſtrenuus, ſenio confectus, longo ſqualore maceratus—Obiit Nob. Comes Staffordiæ Radulphus nomine.*

Ralph, earl of Stafford, his only ſon, ſucceeded him in this caſtle and manor, with its appendages, which on his death deſcended to his three ſons, Thomas, William and Edmund, in ſucceſſion, and likewiſe earls of Stafford.[m]

Upon the death of Thomas, earl of Stafford, the eldeſt above-mentioned, earl William, his brother and heir, being in his minority, king Richard II. committed the cuſtody of all the caſtles and lands, of which he died poſſeſſed, to Thomas of Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter, notwithſtanding the claim of archbiſhop Courtenay, to the cuſtody of this of Tunbridge. On archbiſhop Arundel's ſucceeding to the ſee in the 20th year of that reign, earl Edmund being then in ward to the king, he complained highly of the injuſtice done to himſelf and the church of Canterbury, in depriving it of its juſt rights and prerogatives; by which and his intreaties, he ſo far prevailed, that in the parliament ſummoned that year, the king granted, that the archbiſhop and his ſucceſſors, ſhould in future have the keeping of all lands holden of him in chief, and thereupon cauſed to be delivered to him the caſtle of Tunbridge, holden of him in chief, during the minority of the heir of the earl of Stafford.

Edmund, earl of Stafford above-mentioned, was ſucceeded by his only ſon and heir, Humphry, earl of Stafford, who afterwards bore the title of earl of Buckingham, Hereford, Stafford, Northampton and Perch, and lord of Brecknock and Holderneſs.

[m] Dugdale's Baronetage, vol. i. p. 162, 163.

In the 23d year of it, in reſpect of his near alliance in blood, and of his eminent ſervices, both in France and England, as well in the time of king Henry V. as afterwards, he was advanced to the title of duke of Buckingham, to hold in tail male, and was made conſtable of Dover and Queenborough caſtles, and warden of the cinque ports. He was ſlain in the 38th year of king Henry VI. anno 1549, in the battle of Northampton, fighting there on the king's part, being found by the inquiſition, taken after his death, to die poſſeſſed of this manor and caſtle, with thoſe of Hadlowe, Dachehurſt, Braſtede, and others in this county, and that Henry, ſon of Humphry his eldeſt ſon, who was ſlain in the battle of St. Albans, anno 33 king Henry VI. was his next heir.

Henry, duke of Buckingham, after the death of king Edward IV. became one of the chief confidants of Richard, earl of Glouceſter, and a principal abettor of his deſigns; for which he had ſeveral conſiderable offices conferred on him, and great preſents, with the promiſe of much more, by which, being corrupted, he ſtopt at nothing, which tended to eſtabliſh the crown on the protector's head: and having accompliſhed this, he preſſed the performance of what had been privately promiſed, and the new king ſigned a bill for his having poſſeſſion of thoſe lands, which were of great extent in different counties, and which he laid claim to by deſcent from Humphry Bohun, earl of Hereford.

After which king Richard advanced him to the poſt of great chamberlain, and to that great and high office of conſtable of England, with ſeveral other lucrative ones;[a] but whether it was through a troubled conſcience, or a ſuppoſition of the king's neglect of him, is uncertain; but he ſoon afterwards confederated with the biſhop of Ely, and others, to advance the earl of Richmond to the throne; the king at firſt ſought to

[a] Harl. MSS. No. 433, 16, 19, 72, 88, &c.

regain

regain the duke by fair promiſes, and at laſt by threats, which cauſed him to put himſelf in arms, and with a power of the Welſh to advance towards the Severn; but an extraordinary flood hindered his paſſage ſo long that the Welſh, for want of money and victuals, diſperſed themſelves. The duke being thus forſaken, ſought refuge in the houſe of an old ſervant not far from Shrewſbury, whoſe gratitude he imagined, would be his ſecurity. This ſervant's name was Baniſter, whom the duke had tenderly brought up, and above all men truſted; but a reward of one thouſand pounds being proclaimed for the diſcovery of him, the fellow betrayed him to the ſheriff of Yorkſhire, who apprehended the duke, dreſſed in a piled black cloak, in a grove near Baniſter's houſe, and conveyed him to Saliſbury, where he was on the following day, without arraignment or judgment, beheaded in the open market-place, and an act paſſed for his attainder. Soon after which the king, by writ under his ſign manual, commanded the inhabitants of the honor and lowy of Tunbridge, &c. to attend upon Sir Marmaduke Conſtable, whom he had deputed to make his abode amongſt them, and that they ſhould in no wiſe preſume to take cloathing, or be retained with any manner of perſon or perſons whatſoever, and he afterwards, as appears by his ledger-book, appointed his truſty friend, Robert Brakenbury, eſq. conſtable of Tunbridge caſtle, with the fee of ten marcs.[o]

In the 1ſt year of the next reign of king Henry VII. an act paſſed for the reſtitution of his ſon and heir Edward, duke of Buckingham, who in the 14th year of it, had poſſeſſion granted of all his father's lands, and continued in great favor with the king during the remainder of his reign; but in the beginning of the next, growing eminent and powerful, as well for his high blood, as ample revenue, he drew on himſelf a ſuſpi-

[o] Strype's Stow's Survey, book i. p. 70.

cion of aſpiring higher; which was not a little fomented by cardinal Wolſey, who hated him for ſome expreſſions he had made uſe of relating to his low parentage. Upon which he was committed on a charge of high treaſon, and being found guilty, was beheaded on Tower-hill, anno 13 king Henry VIII.. After which an act paſſed for his attainder, and the ſame year another for the reſtitution of his ſon Henry in blood, but not to his honors and lands.

The caſtle and manor of Tunbridge, with its appendages, thus coming to the crown by the attainder of the duke of Buckingham, remained during that reign in the king's hands, and till king Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted them to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, among other premiſes, by the deſcription of his lordſhip, manor, and caſtle of Tunbridge, and his two parks, called the Poſterne and Cage, (the former being ſituated ſouthward, and the latter northward of the town) and his foreſts and chaſes of North-frith and South-frith, with their members and appurtenances, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice.[p] He was afterwards created duke of Northumberland, and in the 7th year of that reign, by deed inrolled in the Augmentation-office, re-conveyed all theſe eſtates to the king, in exchange for other premiſes. After which queen Mary granted the whole of them to cardinal Reginald Pole, archbiſhop of Canterbury, for his life, and one year after, as he ſhould by his will determine. He died poſſeſſed of them on Nov. 17, 1558, the ſame day that the queen died, and, as it ſeems, without any particular deviſe of them; upon which they came to the crown, and queen Elizabeth, by her letters patent, in her firſt year, granted this caſtle and manor, with the park called North frith, and other large demeſnes belonging to them, to her kinſman Henry Carey, lord

[p] Rot. Eſch ejus an. pt. 3. Augtn. off. deeds of Purch. and Exch. box G. 18.

Hunſdon

Hunſdon, and his heirs male, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice, with remainder to the crown; to bar which, he prevailed on the queen, in her 29th year, to grant the fee of them to lord Burleigh and Sir Walter Mildmay, after which he ſuffered a recovery of them, and at his death in the 38th year of that reign, gave them by will to his eldeſt ſon George, lord Hunſdon, who died in 1603, leaving an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas Berkeley, K. B. eldeſt ſon and heir of Henry, lord Berkeley, who ſoon afterwards alienated this eſtate to Sir John Kenedie, who quickly afterwards paſſed it away by ſale to Ferrers, Goſſon, and Johnſon, and they, by mutual conſent, conveyed their joint intereſt in it in the beginning of James I.'s reign, to Sir Peter Vanlore, a wealthy merchant, who had been naturalized by parliament in the 7th year of it, and he in 1627 ſettled it, together with the bulk of his very large eſtate in this county, Glouceſter and Hertford, on his ſon Peter Vanlore of Tilehurſt, in Berkſhire, eſq. and his iſſue male, with remainder to his own five daughters, (of whom Anne married Sir Charles Cæſar, ſon and heir of the maſter of the rolls; another married Mr. Vander Bempde, and Katherine married Sir Thomas Glemham, of Suffolk) and to his ſon's three daughters.[q]

Peter Vanlore, the ſon, was, after his father's death, in 1628, created a baronet. He bore for his arms, *ſr, an orle* or *garland of woodbines*, alias *honeyſuckles*, *proper*, and dying without iſſue male, left his three daughters his coheirs.

After this, the above ſettlement of Sir Peter Vanlore's father, occaſioned many ſuits in law and equity, between the different claimants under it, for near thirty years, with diviſions and ſub-diviſions of the eſtates mentioned in it; in one of which the North-frith being part of the demeſne lands of this manor, was allotted to one

[q] Atk. Glouc. p. 155, 184, 300, 427.

of

of the five daughters of Sir Peter Vanlore the elder, (the ſhares of the other four being allotted to them elſewhere) married to Mr. Vander Bempde, whoſe deſcendant John Vander Bempde, eſq. of Weſtminſter, gave it in marriage with his daughter Charlotte, who became the ſecond wife of William Johnſton, marquis of Annandale, who had by her two ſons; George, and John.

The marquis died in 1724, and was ſucceeded in his titles by his only ſon and heir, by his firſt wife, (by whom he had likewiſe a daughter Henrietta, married to Charles, earl of Hopeton) and in this eſtate of North-frith by his eldeſt ſon, by his ſecond wife before-mentioned, lord George Johnſton, who, in purſuance of the will of his grandfather John Vander Bempde, took on him that name,[r] and on the death of James, marquis of Annandale, his half-brother, without iſſue, ſucceeded to his titles; but being in 174[illegible] declared a lunatic, this eſtate remained in the hands of the commiſſioners appointed for that purpoſe, till his death in 1792, when this, among his other eſtates, devolved to James, earl of Hopeton, the grandſon of Charles, earl of Hopeton, by his wife Henrietta, ſiſter as above-mentioned, to the late marquis; and this, I believe, was the laſt and only part of the eſtate of Sir Peter Vanlore the elder, remaining in the poſſeſſion of any of his numerous deſcendants.

THE MANOR, CASTLE, and other part of the demeſne lands of the manor of Tunbridge, came, by virtue of the above ſettlement, to the three daughters of Sir Peter Vanlore, bart. the ſon, married to Henry Alexander, earl of Stirling; Sir Robert Cook, bart. and Henry Zinzan, eſq. alias Alexander, who in right of their reſpective wives, became entitled to them; this occaſioned *another diviſion* of this eſtate, which was made by a commiſſion from the court of chancery in

[r] See Acts anno 18 and 33 George II.

1674

1674, by which *the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge*, and ſome of the demeſne lands, were allotted to Jacoba, the wife of Henry Zinzan, alias Alexander, eſq. and her heirs, in fee, and fines were accordingly levied by the reſpective parties. One of her deſcendants, in the year 1739, ſold the caſtle, manor, and demeſne lands to John Hooker, eſq. afterwards of Tunbridge. He was deſcended of a family which came originally out of Hampſhire, and bore for their arms, *Party per pale and feſs, four eſcallops counterchanged ſable and argent.* They at firſt ſettled in this county at Oldberry-hill, in Ightham, whence they removed to Weſt Peckham, where John Hooker, eſq. kept his ſhrievalty in 1712. He left two ſons; Thomas, of whom hereafter; and John, from whom the Hookers of Brenchley are deſcended. Thomas, the eldeſt ſon, left a ſon, John Hooker, eſq. the purchaſer of the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge as above-mentioned, whoſe eldeſt ſon, Thomas Hooker, eſq. ſucceeded him in this eſtate, and was of Tunbridge. In 1793 he built a handſome ſtone manſion for his reſidence, adjoining to the caſtle, but that year, before it was quite finiſhed he ſold the whole of this eſtate to William Woodgate, eſq. of Somerhill, in this pariſh, who had married Frances his ſiſter, and he is the preſent owner of it.

A court leet and court baron is regularly held for this manor. There were formerly ſome payments made for caſtle-guard to it; but they have been long ſince diſuſed, a few payments excepted, which ſeem to be made for encroachment on the lord's waſte.

HILDENBURGH is a large diſtrict, comprehending all the north-weſt part of the lowy of Tunbridge, and containing within it the manors of Hilden, Dachurſt, Martin abbey, Lamport, Nizell, Hadloe, and the diſtrict of Hollenden, the ſmall manor of Leigh, alias Hildenborough, in Leigh, and the manor of Penſhurſt Halymote; over all this diſtrict the honor of Otford has juriſdiction, the high ſteward of which, by his deputy,

puty, holding annually a court leet in this borough, for the election of a conſtable, borſholder, &c. Thus this diſtrict is under the juriſdiction of two different manors, which, ſtrange as it may appear, is not at all uncommon. There are many inſtances where the military and civil juriſdiction of manors (if I may be allowed to make that diſtinction) are ſeparated; the land or houſe holding of one manor by heriot, relief, rent, &c. and the occupier of the ſame land or houſe amenable, by reaſon of his reſciancy, to a ſecond manor at its court leet, the reaſon of which is too obvious to need explanation.

THE MANOR OF DACHURST lies at the weſtern part of the lowy, and was always accounted an appendage to the caſtle and manor of Tunbridge, and conſequently, continued in the ſame owners, as has been already related, till the attainder of Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, in the 14th year of Henry VIII. when it came into the hands of the crown, where the manor itſelf continued (though the demeſnes of it were granted away, as will be mentioned hereafter) at the death of king Charles I. in 1648. After which the powers then in being, paſſed an ordinance to veſt the royal eſtates in truſtees, to ſurvey and ſell them, to ſupply the neceſſities of the ſtate, and this manor of Dachurſt, alias Hildenburgh, was in 1652 ſurveyed for that purpoſe, by which it appears that there were quit rents due to the lord in this pariſh, holden of the manor in free ſocage tenure, and the like from the freeholders in the boroughs of Niſell hoath and Lambert, and from the freeholders in the pariſhes of Lye and Tunbridge in the like tenure, and heretofore reſerved from the manor of Martin abbey, the total of all which, with courts, fines, &c. was 24l. 10s. 6d. And that there was a court leet and court baron belonging to it.[a]

[a] Parliamentary Surveys, Augmentation office.

After

After the above ſurvey, this manor, and thoſe of Martin abbey, Lamport, and Nizell, were ſold by the ſtate to colonel Robert Gibbon, with whom they remained till the reſtoration of king Charles II. in 1660, when the poſſeſſion of them returned again to the crown.

King Charles II. alienated the fee-farms of theſe manors to Mr. George Daſhwood, a younger ſon of a family of this name in Somerſetſhire, deſcended from the ſecond marriage of one of the Daſhwoods, of Dorſetſhire, whoſe eldeſt ſon, Robert, in the 36th year of king Charles II. was created a baronet, and his deſcendant Sir Henry Daſhwood, bart. of Kirtlington, in Oxfordſhire, is the preſent owner of theſe manors, and the fee-farms belonging to them.

The demesnes of the manor of Dachurſt, alias Hildenburgh, were granted by king Henry VIII. the ſame year that the duke of Buckingham was attainted, to Sir William Skeffington, in tail male, to hold by knights ſervice. After which he was in that reign, made maſter of the ordnance in England, and twice lord deputy of Ireland, in which office he died in 1535, and was buried in St. Patrick's church, Dublin, bearing for his arms, *Argent, three bulls heads eraſed, ſable.*[t]

In his deſcendants reſident here, moſt of whom lie buried in this church, this eſtate continued down to John Skeffington, eſq. who died in 1661, without iſſue, and left his intereſt in it to his uncle, Francis Skeffington, eſq. after whoſe death, his relations and heirs, after one or more ſuits at law, agreed to divide his eſtate among them; after which it was gradually ſold in ſeveral parcels to different perſons. Part of it was ſold to Children, and is now in the poſſeſſion of George Children, eſq. of Tunbridge; another part of it was alienated to Weller, and afterwards became the property of Mrs. Catherine Weller, the widow of Nicholas Weller, eſq. who has lately alienated her intereſt

[t] Viſtn. co. Kent, anno 1619. Pedigree Skeffington.

in it to George Children and William-Thomas Harvey, eſqrs. the preſent owners of it, and there were other ſmall parts of it ſold to others: but who is poſſeſſed of them at this time, it is almoſt impoſſible to aſcertain. At a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from Hilden green, the foundations of a large houſe are yet viſible, which are ſuppoſed by many to be thoſe of Dachurſt-place. The ſcite of it was lately the property of Thomas Harvey, eſq. and now belongs to his widow, Mrs. Harvey, of Tunbridge.

HILDEN is a manor ſituated at about a mile's diſtance from Tunbridge town, and was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Vane, written *a-Vane* in antient deeds, before the reign of king Edward III. one of them, John Vane, eſq. had two ſons of the name of Henry; the eldeſt of which left an only daughter and heir, married to Sir Peter Blondevil; the youngeſt Henry Vane, was of this place, eſq. and had three ſons; John Vane, eſq. of Hilden, and afterwards of Tudeley, anceſtor of the ſeveral branches of this family ſince enobled; Thomas, whoſe ſon Humphry died without iſſue; and Henry, who was father of Sir Ralph Fane, attainted in the reign of king Edward VI.[a]

By his will in the 34th year of king Henry VI. he deviſed this manor to his eldeſt ſon John, and the parſonage of Hilden to his youngeſt ſon Henry. John Vane, eſq. ſold the manor in the 10th year of king Henry VII. to Tatterſal, one of whoſe deſcendants poſſeſſed it at his death in the 6th year of king Edward VI. anno 1551, when it was found that he died poſſeſſed of this manor, and five hundred acres of land, in Hilden and Tunbridge, held of the honor of Tunbridge, by knight's ſervice, and that John Tatterſal was his ſon and heir. He alienated it to Humphry Dixon, who in that reign had purchaſed the parſonage

[a] Coll. Peer. laſt edition, vol. iii. p. 173.

of

of Hilden of Elizabeth, lady Vane. He was the ſecond ſon of Thomas Dixon, eſq. of North-frith, in this pariſh, deſcended of a family of good account of this name in Scotland, who bore for their arms, *Or, a croſs formee* or *patee throughout the ſhield, gules, between four eagles diſplayed, ſable.*[w]

John, the eldeſt, ſucceeded him in this manor, and reſided here, he left two ſons; Henry, who was of Hilden, eſq. and juſtice of the peace; and William, who was of Darent, in this county. Henry Dixon, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of Humphry, reſided here, as did his grandſon of the ſame name, who died in 1669, leaving two daughters his coheirs, who poſſeſſed this manor in undivided moieties. Jane, the eldeſt, married Nathaniel Booth, eſq. and Sarah, the youngeſt, Percival Hart, eſq. of Lullingſtone.

Percival Hart, eſq. died in 1738, leaving an only daughter and heir Anne, then married to Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. of Horeham, in Suſſex, who became poſſeſſed of one undivided moiety of this manor, as he did likewiſe of the other moiety on the death of Mrs. Jane Booth, widow, above mentioned, without iſſue, in 1743. Sir Thomas Dyke died in 1756, leaving his widow ſurviving, who poſſeſſed the whole of this manor till her death in 1763, when it deſcended to their only ſon and heir Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. of Lullingſtone, who procuring the authority of parliament,[x] ſold it, in 1767, to Thomas Harvey, eſq. of Tunbridge, the ſon of Thomas Harvey, of Deal, deſcended of the family of Harvey, ſettled ſo early as king Edward the IVth.'s reign, at Tilmanſtone, in Eaſt Kent, and afterwards diſperſed over the ſeveral pariſhes in that neighbourhood, in the deſcription of which pariſh a full account of them may be ſeen, whoſe

[w] Viſitation county of Kent. Pedigree Dixon.

[x] See more of the Harts and Dykes, under Lullingſtone, vol. ii. of this hiſtory.

arms

arms being, *Argent, on a chevron gules, three creſcents or, between three lions gambs eraſed, ſable*, are likewiſe borne by this branch of it. Mr. Harvey, of Tunbridge, married Charlotte, youngeſt daughter of the Rev. William Davis, vicar of this pariſh, by whom he had two ſons, Thomas, now of Redleaf, in holy orders, and William-Thomas; and three daughters, Charlotte, Sophia, and Frances. He died in 1779, leaving his widow Mrs. Harvey, ſurviving, who is by his will poſſeſſor of this eſtate for her life, after which it will devolve, by his deviſe, to his eldeſt ſon, the Rev. Thomas Harvey.

At a ſmall diſtance from Hilden-green, ſtood the manor-houſe, the ruins of which were entirely eraſed ſome years ago, by Sir Thomas Dyke.

A court baron is held for this manor.

PHILIPOTTS is an eſtate in this pariſh, about three miles from Tunbridge town, adjoining to Lyghe, which was once reputed a manor, the memory of which has been long ſince obliterated, and the houſe and eſtate now ſo called dwindled almoſt to nothing, there being at this time only thirty acres of land belonging to it. It formerly gave ſurname to the family who owned it, as appears by a deed dated in the 28th year of king Edward I. in which John de Philipott, of Philipotts, (who bore for his arms, *Sable, a bend ermine*) demiſed lands to Robert Charles, bailiff of Tunbridge foreſt. But after this place had remained many generations in this family, Thomas Philipott, leaving an only daughter and heir, Chriſtiana, about the middle of king Henry VIII's reign; ſhe carried it in marriage to John Petley, eſq. of Downe, who likewiſe died without male iſſue, leaving four daughters his coheirs, of whom the youngeſt was married firſt to Smith, and afterwards to Children, and became on the diviſion of their inheritance, entitled to it.[r] His deſcendant, William

[r] MSS. Pedigree of Petley. Philipott, p. 215.

Children,

Children, reſided at this ſeat, and died about the latter end of king Charles I.'s reign, leaving an only daughter and heir Sindonia, who carried it in marriage to Mr. Richard Polhill, ſon of William, the fifth ſon of Thomas Polhill, alias Polley, of Detling, in whoſe deſcendants it has continued to the preſent time, being now the property of Mr. Richard Polhill, of Chatham, in this county.

There is a tradition in this family, that one of them was bowbender to queen Elizabeth; and not many years ago there hung up in this houſe a bow, curiouſly enamelled and ſtudded, which was ſaid to have belonged to the queen.

BARDEN lies at a ſmall diſtance ſouth-weſtward from Tunbridge town, and was, no doubt, formerly a manor of no ſmall conſequence, as it gives name to *a borough* here of conſiderable extent.

In the 20th year of the reign of king Edward III. the prior of Tunbridge, Roger de Bardenham, and John Barden, held this eſtate, and then paid aid for it as one knight's fee, which the prior and Simon de Barden before held of the earl of Glouceſter.[z]

The family of Barden continued in poſſeſſion of this manor till the reign of king Henry IV. when it was alienated by one of them to Hadlow, in which name it did not continue long; for John Hadlow dying without iſſue, Alice, his ſiſter, became his heir, and entitled her huſband, John Woodward, to the poſſeſſion of it; ſhe ſurvived him, and afterwards ſold it to John Hopday, who in the 38th year of Henry VI. alienated it to William Hextall, of Hextalls-court, in Eaſt Peckham, and he dying without iſſue male, Margaret, his daughrer and heir, entitled her huſband, William Whetenhall, commonly called Whetnall, eſq. citizen and alderman of London, to the poſſeſſion of it. Their deſcendant, William Whetenhall, eſq. of Hex-

[z] Book of Knights Fees, anno 20 Edward III.

tall-court, about the middle of king Henry VIII.'s reign, alienated it to Fane, alias Vane, from which name it paſſed away by ſale, in the 24th year of queen Elizabeth, to Sir Andrew Judde, citizen and ſkinner of London, and lord-mayor in the 5th year of king Edward VI. who bore for his arms, *Gules, a feſs ragule between three bears heads, eraſed feſsways argent.* He was the eldeſt ſon of John Judde, of Tunbridge, by his wife Margaret, daughter of Valentine Chiche, and widow of Clovel, and dying in 1558, was buried in St. Helen's church, London, having founded a ſchool in this pariſh, and other charities elſewhere, which he endowed with lands, and intruſted them to the care of the Skinners company.[a] He left an only daughter and heir Alice, married to Thomas Smith, eſq. of Weſtenhanger, commonly called *Cuſtomer Smith*, who in her right became entitled to a part of this eſtate, called *Barden-houſe farm*, with the lands belonging to it, and ſeveral other lands and tenements adjoining, and elſewhere in this pariſh, (in which the manor was not included) all which he deviſed by will to his ſecond ſon, Sir Thomas Smith, of Sutton-at-Hone, in whoſe deſcendants they continued down to Robert Smith, eſq. of Sutton and Bidborough, who died in 1695, leaving by Katherine his wife, who ſurvived him, two ſons, Henry and William, to whom this eſtate deſcended as heirs *in gavelkind*; after which, anno 10 king William III. ſhe obtained an act for veſting them in truſtees, to ſell the ſame: who accordingly conveyed them by ſale to Thomas Streatfeild, eſq. whoſe deſcendant, Thomas Streatfeild, eſq. now of Sevenoke, owns this eſtate.

The other part of Barden, containing the manor, ſeems to have paſſed, on the death of Sir Andrew Judde, to one of his brothers, who in the 33d year of

[a] Strype's Stow's Survey, book i. p. 263, book ii. p. 101, book v. p. 187.

queen

queen Elizabeth, anno 1590, alienated it to Johnſon, and he in the 9th year of king Charles I. ſold it to John Polhill, eſq. of Otford, the ſon of David, grandſon of another David, the third ſon of Thomas Polhill, the ſecond ſon of Thomas Polhill, of Detling, by Alice Buckland, and from him it has deſcended down to his great-grandſon, Charles Polhill, eſq. of Chepſted, in Chevening, the preſent owner of this manor.

HADLOW is a ſmall manor adjoining to that of Barden, laſt-mentioned, being called, to diſtinguiſh it from the manor of the adjoining pariſh of Hadlow, by the name of *the manor of Hadlow Tunbridge.* It had antiently owners of the ſame name, in which it remained till about the reign of king Henry V. when John Hadlow dying without iſſue, Alice his ſiſter, married to John Woodward, became his heir; their ſon, John Woodward, who bore for his arms, *Argent, a chevron ſable, between three graſshoppers vert,* in the 37th year of king Henry VI. conveyed his intereſt in this manor to William and Henry Hextall, the latter of whom, that year, releaſed all his right in it to his brother William above-mentioned, who dying a few years afterwards without male iſſue, his daughter and coheir Margaret, entitled her huſband, William Whetenhall, eſq. citizen and alderman of London, to the poſſeſſion of it, and his deſcendant, William Whetenhall, eſq. about the middle of king Henry VIII.'s reign, ſold this manor to William Waller, eſq. whoſe ſon, Richard Waller, in the 26th year of queen Elizabeth, anno 1583, ſold it to Mr. George Stacy, and he in 1590, alienated it to Robert Byng, eſq. of Wrotham, whoſe two grandſons, George and William Byng, in 1623, paſſed it away by ſale to David Polhill, eſq. of Otford, whoſe deſcendant, Charles Polhill, eſq. of Chepſted, in Chevening, is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor.

A court baron was called for this manor about ten years ago, but no one attended at it; ſo it is not probable there will be one held again for it.

THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH, alias SOUTHBOROUGH, is *a diſtrict* comprehending the ſouthern part of the lowy of Tunbridge, in which *the manor of that name* firſt claims our attention. It was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the great family of Clare, earls of Glouceſter, and lords of the caſtle and manor of Tunbridge, from whom, in like manner it paſſed to the Audleys and Staffords, in which laſt name it continued till Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, being found guilty of high treaſon, anno 13 king Henry VIII. forfeited this manor, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions to the crown, after which an act paſſed for his attainder, and the king in the 14th year of his reign, granted to Sir Thomas More, the manor of South, late Edward, duke of Buckingham's, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice.

Being a man of great abilities and learning, he was in the 22d year of that reign, made lord chancellor, which high office, after two years and an half, he reſigned, not being willing to be inſtrumental in the king's rupture with the pope. Afterwards, refuſing to take the oath of ſupremacy and ſucceſſion, he was arraigned, and being found guilty of high treaſon, was executed on Tower-hill ſix days afterwards. He was the only ſon of Sir John More, one of the juſtices of the king's bench, and had one ſon John, attainted after his father's death, and then pardoned by the king; and three daughters, of whom Margaret, was a woman of great wiſdom, piety, and learning, and married William Roper, eſq. of Eltham. After his death his body was firſt buried in the Tower chapel, and afterwards removed to Chelſea church, and there depoſited on the ſouth ſide of the chancel. His head was ſet upon London bridge, where it continued about fourteen days, and was then privily bought by his daughter,

Mrs.

Mrs. Margaret Roper; after which it was incloſed in lead and depoſited in the vault of the Ropers, in St. Dunſtan's church, near Canterbury, where the box now remains placed on the coffin of his daughter abovementioned.[b]

This manor, thus coming to the crown, was granted by the king that year, being his 26th, to George Bulleyn, viſcount Rochford, ſon of Thomas, earl of Wiltſhire and Ormond, and brother of queen Anne Bulleyn, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice. But the king's affections being changed from her, the lord Rochford was next year committed to the tower, on pretence of too great familiarity with his ſiſter, and being found guilty of high treaſon, was beheaded, by which this manor came again into the hands of the crown, and was next year granted to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, who, together with Joane his wife, by indenture, in the 3d year of king Edward VI. granted this manor of Southborowe, with its appurtenances, in the pariſhes, townſhips, and hamlets of Southborowe, otherwiſe called South Tunbridge, Capel, Speldhurſt, and Pepenbury, to the king, in exchange for other premiſes.[c]

In the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, it was in the poſſeſſion of Sir Richard Sackvyle, who in the 19th year of that reign, alienated it to Thomas Smith, eſq. of Weſtenhanger, commonly called *Cuſtomer Smith*, and he gave it by will to his ſecond ſon, Sir Thomas Smith, of Sutton at Hone, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Sir Sydney Stafford Smythe, late chief baron of the exchequer, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1778, *ſ. p.* as did his widow, lady Sarah Smythe, in 1790, and by her will deviſed this manor, among her other eſtates, to truſtees, for the benefit of her nephews and nieces, and they afterwards ſold

[b] Chauncy's Hertfordſhire, p. 331 et ſeq.
[c] Inrolm. Augmentation-office, box C. 8.

it to the right hon. John, earl of Darnley, the preſent owner of this manor. A court baron is regularly held for it.

A fair is held in this manor yearly on the 24th of March.

HAYSDEN, alias *Eaſt Hayſden*, is a ſmall manor, which lies at the ſouth-weſt extremity of *the lowy*, and was ſome years ago in the poſſeſſion of the name of Turner, whence it was, not long ſince, ſold to Mr. John Groombridge, whoſe widow re-marrying with Henry Goodwyn, eſq. of Enfield, he is in her right entitled to the poſſeſſion of it.

A court baron is held for this manor.

AS THERE WAS *a large diſtrict*, comprehending a manor, foreſt, or chaſe, with a park incloſed with pales within it, at the northern part of the lowy, called *North-frith*; ſo there was a like diſtrict, though of much larger extent, called SOUTH-FRITH, at the oppoſite or ſouthern ſide of it, with a park likewiſe incloſed with pale within the bounds of it.

THIS DISTRICT was, no doubt, part of the demeſnes of the family of Clare, earls of Glouceſter and Hertford, poſſeſſors of the caſtle and manor of Tunbridge, with whom it continued till Gilbert de Clare, the only ſon and heir of Gilbert, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford, dying without ſurviving iſſue, in the 8th year of king Edward II. his three ſiſters became his coheirs; and upon the diviſion of their inheritance, though Hugh de Audley, in right of his wife Margaret, the ſecond daughter and coheir, had the caſtle and manor of Tunbridge allotted to him, yet Elizabeth, the youngeſt of them, widow of John de Burgh, ſeems to have poſſeſſed this diſtrict of *South-frith*, and the honor of Clare, in Suffolk, as part of her ſhare of it. She had by her huſband, above-mentioned, a ſon, named William, who on his grandfather's death became earl of Ulſter, bearing for his arms, *Or, a croſs gules*, and on his mother's death inherited this eſtate.

He

He left an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, who married Lionel, third ſon of king Edward III. and duke of Clarence, and was in her right created earl of Ulſter, and lord of Conaught and Trime.

The duke died in the 43d year of that reign, at Alba Pompeia, in Italy, being then poſſeſſed of this eſtate of South-frith, leaving an only daughter and heir Philippa, who, about the time of her father's death, by the king's command, was married to Edmund Mortimer, the third earl of March, and lord of Wigmore, who died in Ireland in the 5th year of king Richard II. anno 1381,[d] poſſeſſed of this eſtate, which afterwards deſcended to his grandſon Edmund, earl of March, who dying in the 3d year of king Henry VI. without iſſue,[e] his nephew Richard, duke of York, the only ſon of Richard, earl of Cambridge, by Anne Mortimer, his eldeſt ſiſter, became by his uncle's will heir to his eſtates, and to this chaſe of South-frith among them, which he did not gain poſſeſſion of till the counteſs's death, anno 10 Henry VI. He had became on the death of his father's elder brother without iſſue, anno 3 king Henry V. duke of York, and being both on his father's and mother's ſide, deſcended from king Edward III. he began to think of aſpiring to the crown; and to cruſh the houſe of Lancaſter. But in the 37th year of king Henry VI. being deſerted by his army, he fled to Ireland, and was ſoon afterwards, in the parliament attainted, with his ſon the earl of March; upon which this eſtate became forfeited to the crown, where it did not remain long, for on the turn of fortune, which happened to him ſoon afterwards, the duke of York regained the poſſeſſion of it, and died poſſeſſed of this chaſe with its appendages, in the 3d year of king Edward IV. After which Cecilie,

[d] Sandf. Gen. Hiſtory, p. 219 et ſeq.

[e] See a full account of the Mortimers, earls of March, under Erith, vol. ii. p. 237.

dutcheſs of York, his widow, mother of king Edward IV. continued in the poſſeſſion of it till her death, which happened in the 10th year of king Henry VIII. when this eſtate reverted to the crown, after which king Henry VIII. granted to George, lord Cobham, the office of maſter, manager, and ſupervisor of all the beaſts, of what ſort ſoever, of his park of South-frith, and of keeper of all his ponds and waters within them; in the original, *Magiſtr'. deduct', & ſupervis omn & omndm ferar, pti de S. frith & Cuſtod' omn Vivar aquar. & ſtagn infra pcum de S. frith*; but the fee of it remained in the crown till king Edward VI. in his 4th year granted the manor of South-frith, with the foreſt or chaſe, and the park of it, to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, together with the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge, and other premiſes, as has been already noticed before, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice.[f]

All which the earl, by the title of duke of Northumberland, he having been ſo created, re-conveyed in the 7th year of that reign, to the king, this eſtate in exchange. After which queen Mary granted them to cardinal Reginald Pole, archbiſhop of Canterbury, to hold during his life, and one year after as he ſhould by his will determine. He died in 1558, without any particular deviſe of them; upon which they came to the crown, whence this foreſt or chaſe, manor, &c. were granted by queen Elizabeth, in her 14th year, to one of her chief favorites, Robert Dudley, earl of Leiceſter, for a term of years, at the expiration of which ſhe granted the fee of them to Frances, widow of Robert Devereux, earl of Eſſex, who was the ſole daughter and heir of that great ſtateſman, Sir Francis Walſingham, and had firſt married Sir Philip Sydney; the counteſs of Eſſex, afterwards re-married Richard Burgh, earl of Clanrickard, and it is no wonder this lady married him

[f] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 3. Augtn. off. Deeds of Purchaſe and Exchange, box G. 18. and Inrolm.

when

when Smollet ſays he was a very handſome gallant young nobleman, and very like the late earl of Eſſex; inſomuch, that the queen, then far advanced in years, made ſome advances to him, which he declined. He became by this marriage poſſeſſed of this eſtate, and built a noble manſion at a very large expence, on a pleaſant eminence on the northern part of it, which he did not finiſh till the latter end of king James I.'s reign, and gave it the name of SOMERHILL. In the 22d year of that reign he was created baron of Somerhill, viſcount Tunbridge; and in the 4th year of king Charles I. earl of St. Albans, at which time he had likewiſe other Iriſh honors conferred on him, as baron of Imaudy, in Conaught, and viſcount of Galloway,[1] bearing for his arms, *Or, a croſs gules, in the dexter canton, a lion rampant ſable.* He reſided much at Somerhill, and dying in 1636 was buried in Tunbridge church. Ulick, his ſon and heir, was long in arms for king Charles I. in Ireland, whence being obliged to fly, he took refuge in England, with the king, who in 1645 created him marquis of Clanrickard. His attachment to the king was a ſufficient reaſon for the parliament to declare him a delinquent, and to ſequeſter his eſtate, which they did, and by their ordinance of that year granted, among other premiſes, the manor, lands, &c. parcel of the eſtate of the earl of St. Albans, before ſeized and ſequeſtered into the hands of the parliament, as being a papiſt, called Somerhill, alias Tunbridge, and all his goods there, to Robert, earl of Eſſex, in recompence of his heroic valour, prudent conduct, and *unſpotted fidelity* in that high and important command of captain-general of their army, to hold during his life, in part of the yearly ſum of 10,000l. which they had voted to him. The earl of Eſſex died poſſeſſed of this eſtate, with the ſeat belonging to it, in 1646, not without ſuſpicion of poiſon,

[1] Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 450.

and

and had a moſt magnificent funeral, at the charge of the parliament, with a grand proceſſion of ſtate to the place of his burial, in St. Paul's chapel, in Weſtminſter abbey. Upon which it came again into the hands of the parliament, who, ſoon after the king's death, granted it to John Bradſhaw, ſerjeant at law, preſident of their high court of juſtice, for his great ſervice, as they termed it, to his country.[h] He died poſſeſſed of it in 1659, and was buried with much ſolemnity in St. Peter's church, in Weſtminſter; but next year his body was taken up again, and hanged on the gallows at Tyburn, under which it was afterwards buried, and the head being cut off was ſet on Weſtminſter-hall. He was ſucceeded in it by a natural ſon, but the reſtoration of king Charles II. happening a few months afterwards, this eſtate of South-frith, with the ſeat and park of Somerhill, returned to its lawful owner in the perſon of Margaret, only daughter and heir of Ulick, marquis of Clanrickard, above-mentioned, who had deceaſed in 1659, and was buried in the church of Tunbridge, and there were ſeveral antient people, not many years ſince alive, who remember an old man in this neighbourhood, who was reputed to be a natural ſon of John Bradſhaw, and reported to have been once poſſeſſed of Somerhill.

The above lady was then the wife of Charles M'Carty, viſcount Muſkerry, eldeſt ſon of Donough, earl of Clancarty, who in her right became entitled to this ſeat and eſtate. He was killed in the great engagement with the Dutch in Solebay, in 1665, being then in the duke of York's ſhip, by a cannon ball, which at the ſame time killed the earl of Falmouth, and Richard Boyle, ſecond ſon of the earl of Burlington. He died without iſſue, and ſhe afterwards re-married John Villiers, viſcount Purbeck, eldeſt ſon of Sir John Villiers, viſcount Purbeck, the elder brother of George

[h] In 1649. See Hiſt. Independ. pt. ii. p. 250.

Villiers,

Villiers, duke of Buckingham, the great favorite of king James and king Charles I.

John, viſcount Purbeck, the ſon, poſſeſſed this eſtate in his wife's right, and on the death of his mother Mary, counteſs of Buckingham, claimed the title of earl of Buckingham before the houſe of lords in 1667; which was not allowed, notwithſtanding which he continued to take the title, and always ſubſcribed himſelf, Buckingham. He died, leaving by Margaret his wife, one ſon John, who on his death, aſſumed likewiſe the title of earl of Buckingham. Which Margaret, ſurviving her huſband, again poſſeſſed this eſtate in her own right, and afterwards remarried for her third huſband, Mr. commonly called Beau, Fielding; having by her expenſive way of life waſted her eſtate, ſhe by piece-meals ſold off a great part of the demeſne lands, lying moſtly on the ſouthern ſide of South-frith to different perſons, and dying in great diſtreſs, was buried accordingly, about the year 1698.

On her death, her ſon John Villiers, calling himſelf earl of Buckingham, became poſſeſſed of Somerhill houſe and park, which laſt had been let to a warrener, and thoſe demeſnes of South-frith which remained unſold by his mother. Soon after which, he alienated the manor of South-frith, with the ſeat and park of Somerhill, and all the lands whatever incloſed within the pales of it to Dekins; and all the reſt of the demeſne lands whatſoever poſſeſſed by him here, which amounted to upwards of twelve hundred acres of land and wood ground, adjoining to the high road from Tunbridge to Rye, oppoſite to Somerhill park-pales, and extending from thence almoſt to Pembury church), to Abraham Hill, eſq. of Sutton at Hone, in whoſe name and family they continued till William Hill, eſq. of Carwithenick, in Cornwall, about the year 1768, alienated them to Mr. Edward Whatmore, of Saliſbury, who quickly afterwards ſold them

to

to James Templer, eſq. of the city of Weſtminſter, ſince deceaſed, whoſe ſon the Rev. John Templer, is the preſent poſſeſſor of them. But THE MANOR OF SOUTH-FRITH, *with the houſe and park of Somerhill*, was deviſed by Dekins, who died without iſſue, to Cave, who about 1712 conveyed this eſtate to Mr. John Woodgate, of Chepſted, in Penſhurſt. The anceſtors of whoſe family reſided at Stonewall, in Chidingſtone, and bore for their arms, *On a chevron, three acorns between three ſquirrels ſejant.* The firſt of them that I have any account of, married Joane, daughter of Robert Combridge, of Coldharbour, in Penſhurſt, whoſe ſon William, of Stonewall, was father of John Woodgate, the purchaſer of Somerhill, as above-mentioned, to which ſeat he removed from Penſhurſt, ſoon after his purchaſe of it. His eldeſt ſon William, was of Stonewall, and died unmarried; Francis, the third and youngeſt, was of Mountfield, in Suſſex, clerk, and left three ſons, William, of whom hereafter; Stephen, now of Sevenoke, gent. and Henry, of Serjeant's-inn; and ſix daughters, of whom Mary was married to John Acton, eſq. of London, and Alice to William Aſhburnham, eſq. ſon of the late biſhop of Chicheſter.

Henry, the ſecond ſon of John, ſucceeded him in this eſtate of Somerhill, but reſided at Tunbridge-town, where he died unmarried in 1787, and by will gave this eſtate to his eldeſt nephew William, ſon of the Rev. Francis Woodgate, of Mountfield, as above-mentioned. He reſided at Somerhill during his uncle's life-time, and married Frances, the youngeſt ſiſter of Thomas Hooker, eſq. late of Tunbridge, by whom he had three ſons, William-Francis, eſq. now of Tunbridge, who married Miſs Almutt, daughter of Richard Almutt, eſq. of South-park, in Penſhurſt; Henry and John, and three daughters, Frances, married to Richard Almutt, eſq. of South-park, Anne and

and Maria. He now reſides at Somerhill, of which he is the preſent owner.

There is a court baron held for this manor, ſeveral of the tenants of which hold by copy of court-roll, which is not very frequent in this part of the county.

NEW, or LITTLE BOUNDS is a ſeat in this pariſh, ſituated at the ſouthern bounds of it, and was ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from the adjoining ſeat of Old Bounds, in the next pariſh of Bidborough. It was built by the lord chief baron Bury, on a piece of ground, part of that eſtate, granted to him by one of the family of Smith; and paſſed from one of his deſcendants, Dorothy, daughter of William Rokeby, eſq. of Shellow, in Yorkſhire, by Emma his wife, eldeſt daughter of Sir William Bury, of Grantham, in Lincolnſhire, in marriage, about the latter end of the laſt century, to Sir Thomas l'anſon, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1707. His ſon, Sir Thomas l'anſon, likewiſe reſided here, and dying in 1764, was buried near his father in this church. On the monument erected to their memories, they are ſtiled baronets, but I cannot find when the patent was granted; he left two ſons, Thomas and John, and ſeveral daughters; of whom Sir Thomas l'anſon, the eldeſt ſon, reſided here at times, and was gentleman porter of the tower of London. He died in 1773, leaving his widow ſurviving, on whoſe death in 1774, it deſcended to their ſon, Mr. John l'anſon, and he alienated it to chief baron Smythe, who died in 1778, as did his widow the lady Sarah Smythe, in 1790, and by her will deviſed it to truſtees, for the benefit of her nephews and nieces, and they have ſince ſold it to the right hon. John, earl of Darnley, the preſent owner of it.

CALVERLEY is another ſeat, ſituated likewiſe near the ſouthern bounds of this pariſh, at no great diſtance from Tunbridge-wells, which was many years ago the property of William Strong, eſq. from whom

it

it came into the poſſeſſion of Thomas Panuwell, eſq. who died unmarried in 1750, and was buried in this church. By his will he gave this ſeat to his friend Thomas Smith, eſq. who took on him the name of Panuwell, and dying in 1786, was ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſon of the ſame name, who is the preſent owner, and reſides in it.

THE PRIORY OF TUNBRIDGE was founded about the latter end of the reign of king Henry II. by Richard de Clare, the firſt earl of Hertford, and lord of this place, for monks of the *Premonſtratenſian* order, commonly called *white canons*, and it was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.[i]

Richard de Clare, by his foundation-charter to this priory, ſituated within his manor of Tonebrigge, gave to the canons regular in it, ten marcs, to be received yearly from his manor of Tonebrigge; and 51s. 5d. to be received from all the aſſarts, old as well as new, of his land called *Dennemanneſhrock*, in Yalding; and likewiſe yearly one hundred and twenty hogs in his foreſt of Tunbridge, free from pannage; and that the canons ſhould have two horſes *(ſummarios)* every day, to carry the dead wood home to them, from out of his woods neareſt and moſt convenient to them; and one ſtag yearly to be taken by the earl's men.

All which they enjoyed afterwards uninterrupted, as appears by an inquiſition taken in the 19th year of king Edward II.[k]

In the year 1351, a ſudden and dreadful fire happened in this priory, which conſumed every part of it to the foundations, together with all their habits, ornaments, jewels, and furniture; but theſe were ſoon afterwards re-edified, in aid of which the church of Leghe was appropriated to it, in the inſtrument for which, the church, chapter-houſe, dormitory, refec-

[i] Stev Mon. vol. ii. p. 145. Tan. Mon. p. 212.
[k] Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 258.

tory,

tory, library, and veſtry, of this priory, then deſtroyed, are ſaid to have been *ediſicia ſplendida et nobilia.*

This priory remained afterwards without any circumſtance happening to it worth mentioning, till the reign of king Henry VIII. when cardinal Wolſey, being deſirous of founding two colleges, one at Ipſwich, and the other at Oxford, and finding there were ſeveral mean monaſteries in England, where both the revenues and the number of religious were too ſmall to keep up regular diſcipline, church ſervice, and hoſpitality, obtained a bull from the pope, in 1524, for ſuppreſſing, with the king's leave, as many ſmall monaſteries as were requiſite to raiſe a revenue not exceeding three thouſand ducats per annum. To which the king having conſented, this priory, with ſeventeen other ſmall ones in different counties, was ſuppreſſed; at which time it appears, the ſpiritualities of it were valued at 48l. 11s. 4d. and the temporalities at 120l. 18s. 11d. in the whole 169l. 10s. 3d. per annum; which revenues lay in the ſeveral counties of Kent, Cambridge, Suffolk, Norfolk, and Surry.[l]

After which the king, in his 17th year, granted the ſeveral ſuppreſſed monaſteries, and this of Tunbridge among them, together with all their manors, lands, and poſſeſſions, to the cardinal, for the better endowment of his college, called Cardinal college, in Oxford; which letters patent were confirmed by others ſoon afterwards.[m] But this great prelate being caſt in a *præmunire*, about four years afterwards, all the poſſeſſions of that college, which for want of time had not been firmly ſettled on it, were forfeited to the king, and became part of the royal revenue of the crown.

[l] Inquiſition in the Cardinals bundle, in the Chapter-houſe, at Weſtminſter. [m] Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 156.

King

King Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted among other premiſes in this pariſh, as has been mentioned already before, the late priory of Tunbridge, and the manors, lands, and poſſeſſions of it in this county, to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice. All which premiſes the earl, by the title of duke of Northumberland, he having been ſo created, re-conveyed in the 7th year of that reign, to the king, in exchange for other premiſes.[n] Queen Mary granted the priory, with the poſſeſſions in this county, late belonging to it, and the reſt of the premiſes above-mentioned, to cardinal Reginald Pole, archbiſhop of Canterbury, to hold during his life and one year after, as he ſhould by his will determine. He died in 1558, and, as it ſeems, without any particular deviſe of them; upon which they again became part of the revenues of the crown.

Queen Elizabeth granted the ſcite of this priory to Sir Henry Sidney, and afterwards to Dame Urſula Walſingham. It afterwards paſſed into the poſſeſſion of the lady viſcounteſs Purbeck, who ſold it to one of the family of Poley, in which it continued till it was deviſed by will to George Weller, eſq. of Tunbridge, who bore for his arms, *Sable, two chevronels between three roſes argent.* He took on him the name of Poley, and afterwards reſided at Boxted-hall, in Suffolk, and his ſon, George Weller Poley, eſq. of that place, afterwards poſſeſſed it and died in 1780, on which this eſtate became the property of his next brother, the Rev. John Weller Poley, clerk.

The buildings of this priory appear to have been very extenſive, from the foundations ſtill viſible; what remains of them ſeem to have been ſome part of the great hall, and the chapel, which is at preſent made uſe of as a barn and oaſt-ſtowage, and ſuch

[n] Augmentation off. Inrolm. and Deeds of Purch. and Exch. box H. 17.

like

like uſes. Meſſrs. Buck, in 1735, engraved a ſouth view of the ruins of this priory.

About ſixty years ago, there was dug up among theſe ruins a ſtone coffin, containing a ſkeleton, which, on being expoſed to the air, quickly mouldered into duſt.

In the priory grounds, at a ſmall diſtance from the ſcite of it ſouthward, is *a well* dedicated to St. Margaret, which was formerly walled round, and had great reſort to it before Tunbridge Wells came in vogue. It appears by the ochreous ſediment to be ſtrongly impregnated with mineral, but does not ſparkle like the water of thoſe wells.

THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, which ſtands at the north end of the town of Tunbridge, is of the foundation of Sir Andrew Judde, a native of this town, citizen and ſkinner of London, and lord-mayor in the 5th year of king Edward VI. He erected the ſchool-houſe with ſome other buildings belonging to it, and intending to endow it he purchaſed lands in the name of himſelf, and Henry Fiſher entruſting the management of them and the ſchool to the Skinners company in London. After which he procured the king's letters patent, anno 7 Edward VI. for the founding of it; and that the *maſter, wardens, and commonalty of ſkinners* ſhould be *governors* of the poſſeſſions, lands, and goods of the ſchool, to be called *the free grammar ſchool of Sir Andrew Judde, in the town of Tunbridge.*

Sir Andrew Judde died in 1558, and by his will bequeathed the lands ſo purchaſed, to that company, for the purpoſe of this ſchool; and they were aſſigned accordingly by Henry Fiſher, above-mentioned, but after his death Andrew Fiſher, his ſon, endeavoured to impeach thoſe conveyances; but the whole being examined in parliament,* in the 14th year

* Journals of Houſe of Commons, anno 15 Elizabeth, 1572.

of queen Elizabeth, an act paſſed for the aſſurance of the lands to this ſchool; and again afterwards, upon a ſolemn hearing in the houſe of commons, upon the petition of the company, with the conſent of Fiſher, the former act was confirmed that year, anno 31 queen Elizabeth, by another act, for the better aſſuring of the lands and tenements of this ſchool, thoſe left by the will of Sir Andrew Judde, for the maintenance of this ſchool and other charities, to the Skinners company, amounted then to 56l. 0s. 4d. per annum, and were ſituated in different pariſhes in the city of London, and in St. Pancras near it.[p]

About which time, the maſter of this ſchool had twenty pounds per annum, and the uſher of it eight pounds per annum, the reparations of the buildings of it, and the charges at the examination of the ſcholars amounted yearly to 50l. 2s. 3d. and there were ſix ſcholars maintained at Oxford and Cambridge, which coſt the company yearly thirty pounds.

Since which, *the company of ſkinners* have executed this truſt with great liberality, having both improved and augmented the original foundation. They have doubled the ſalary of the maſter, allowed a handſome annual gratuity to the uſher, beſides his ſtipend, and have uſually given annuities for life to ſuch ſuperannuated maſters, who have ſtood in need of them, and have ſometimes continued them to their repreſentatives.

The original building of this ſchool extends in front upwards of one hundred feet in length. It is conſtructed in a plain, but neat and uniform ſtile, with the ſand-ſtone of the neighbouring country. At the back part of it, there is a conſiderable addition to the maſter's habitation, erected by the Skinner's company in 1676, together with a hall or refectory, for the uſe of the ſcholars; and a ſmall, yet elegant library built

[p] Strype Stow's Survey, book v. p. 61, 187, 188.

at

at the joint expence of the patrons of the ſchool, and of the Rev. Mr. Cawthorn, late maſter of it. There are alſo detached offices, a garden, and a play-ground belonging to it.

By the charter of king Edward VI. the college of All Souls were appointed viſitors, in caſe any diſpute ſhould ariſe; indeed, in the charter it is written, *Collegium omnium Sanctorum*; but as there is no ſuch college, and the founder of this ſchool being of conſanguinity to archbiſhop Chichele, the founder of that college, the late learned Sir William Blackſtone was of opinion, that the word *ſanctorum* was a miſtake of the tranſcriber for *animarum*, and that the college of All Souls was meant by the founder for this part of the truſt; though it is not upon record, that theſe viſitors have at any time been appealed to.

The ſtatutes of the ſchool were peruſed, approved, and ſubſcribed by archbiſhop Parker and Dr. Nowell, dean of St. Paul's. Among other matters contained in them, it is ordained, that the maſter of the ſchool ſhall be a maſter of arts, if it may be, and that the uſher ſhall be choſen by him; and that the maſter ſhall have authority to reject ſuch as apply for gratis inſtruction, or day boys, unleſs they can write competently, and read Latin and Engliſh perfectly. But diſputes having ariſen concerning the extent of the freedom of the ſchool, in 1693 an appeal was made from the town of Tunbridge to the Skinners company, who thereupon limited its freedom according to the words of the charter to the emolument, *Juvenum in villa et patria adjacenti*, of the boys inhabiting the town and adjacent country; and this, according to the opinion of the late lord chancellor Yorke, was a very fair and reaſonable conſtruction. Notwithſtanding which, another warm diſpute on this ſubject aroſe again in 1764; when after conſulting the moſt learned men of the law, viz. Yorke, Norton, De Grey, Blackſtone, and Huſſey, it was reſolved at a court holden

by the Skinners at their hall in 1765, that the children of the town and parish of Tunbridge, who could write competently, and read Latin and English perfectly, should be instructed on proper application to the master, without payment of any consideration excepting the statutable entrance-money; but judge Blackstone was of opinion, that the college of All Souls ought to have been consulted.

The greatest benefactor to this school, next to the founder, was Sir Thomas Smith, second son of Customer Smith, by Alice, daughter and heir of Sir Andrew Judde before-mentioned, who bequeathed lands to the Skinners company in trust, among other purposes, to pay to the master of this school ten pounds per annum; to the usher of it five pounds; to six scholars to be elected to the university from it sixty pounds per annum; to the Skinners company towards the expence of their annual visitations, an account of which will be given hereafter, 6l. 13s. 4d. per annum; and also the sum of twenty-four pounds per annum, to buy a piece of cloth, to be distributed to twenty-four poor persons, one piece of it to each of them, at the annual visitation above-mentioned.

There are *several exhibitions* appropriated to this school, besides those of Sir Thomas Smith above-mentioned, which were to be paid in exhibitions of ten pounds a year each, for seven years, to six poor scholars, who should go immediately from it to either of the universities.

Mr. Fisher, Sir Andrew Judde's executor, in 1562 endowed an exhibition for a scholar, who should go to Oxford from this school. Mr. Lewis endowed an exhibition for one scholar, going from hence to Cambridge. Sir James Lancaster, in 1620, endowed four more exhibitions, for such as should go to either of the universities.[q] Mr. Worrall gave two exhibitions

[q] Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 61.

of

of ſix pounds a year each to ſcholars, who ſhould have ſpent two full years in the upper claſs. The will directs, that the perſon choſen by the Skinners company to one of their own exhibitions may alſo enjoy one of theſe, or if there ſhould be any one ſcholar recommended by the maſter, as qualified in an eminent degree above others, he may enjoy both Mr. Worrall's exhibitions as they fall, if the head and ſenior fellows of the college ſignify their concurrence. Thomas Lampard, in 1593, gave an exhibition of four marcs, to be paid quarterly to a poor ſcholar of Tunbridge pariſh and ſchool, who ſhould be preferred to St. John's college, in Oxford, upon Sir Thomas White's foundation of a fellowſhip there, for the firſt five years after his going there.

Robert Holmedon bequeathed by his laſt will four pounds a year in the diſpoſal of the Leatherſellers company, to be given to a ſcholar of this ſchool on failure of a claimant from another ſchool, at the time of vacancy. Sir Thomas White directed by his will, that in the choice of a bible clerk, or *Æditnus* of his college of St. John, in Oxford, a preference ſhould be given to the candidates educated at either of the ſchools which ſupply that college, of which Tunbridge is one. The ſalary and emoluments are thirty pounds per annum, and it is compatible with any of the above-mentioned exhibitions, and is now enjoyed by a ſcholar of this ſchool, together with one of Sir Thomas Smith's exhibitions. Sir Thomas White was lord-mayor of London in 1554, and of the Merchant Taylors company. His charities were moſt liberal and extenſive. He was an intimate friend of Sir Andrew Judde, and *propter eximium amorem in eum*, as the ſtatutes of his college of St. John tell us, gave one of his fellowſhips to Tunbridge ſchool, which was founded but a little while before that college. The probationary, fellow, or ſcholar, when nominated, muſt be ſent immediately from the ſchool;

that is, he muſt not have left the ſchool before the vacancy; for the ſtatute expreſsly ſays, that the electors *ex ſuis ſcholis mittendos curent*, and it directs that the nomination of the fellow ſhall be made by the *Prætores vel Seniores* of the ſeveral corporate towns from which fellows are ſent to St. John's college, but as Tunbridge is not a corporation, nor has either mayors or aldermen or any ſuch, who anſwer the above deſcription in it, there have been great debates to whom the election properly belongs. The nomination has always hitherto been ſigned by the maſter and a few of the principal inhabitants of the town, and the college has invariably admitted its validity, though opponents have more than once endeavoured to ſet it aſide.

Lady Margaret, relict of Sir William Boſwell, in 1692, by will, bequeathed a farm, called Halywell, at Burnham, in Eſſex, to truſtees, to diſpoſe of the yearly rents to ſeveral charitable uſes; among which, to Jeſus college, in Cambridge, for two ſcholarſhips, twelve pounds per annum each; the ſcholars to be called Sir William Boſwell's ſcholars, and to be choſen out of Sevenoke ſchool, and for want of lads fitting there, then from this ſchool of Tunbridge, and upon every vacancy, three pounds a piece to two of the fellows of that college, to come over and prove the capacities of the lads. Mr. John Strong left by will a ſum of money in truſt, for the apprenticing to ſome marine buſineſs, a ſcholar, educated at the great ſchool at Tunbridge; but it does not appear, that this bequeſt has ever been claimed by any ſcholar of this ſchool.

This ſchool continues under the management of the company of Skinners, who, in purſuance of the ſtatutes, viſit it annually in the month of May, at a very conſiderable expence, when they are attended, as the ſtatutes direct, by a very reſpectable clergyman of London, whoſe buſineſs it is to examine the ſeveral claſſes

claſſes of the ſchool. On the arrival of the company, &c. in their carriages, at the gates of the ſchool, a congratulatory oration in Latin is ſpoken by the head boy. The company then proceed to church, where they diſtribute bread, money, and cloaths to a number of poor perſons of the pariſhes of Tunbridge, Bidborough, and Speldhurſt, according to the will of Sir Thomas Smith. On their return, after a cold collation, they ſurvey the buildings, and give orders for all neceſſary repairs. They next proceed to the the ſchool, where, after a few Latin orations, the examination begins; at the cloſe of which the whole company, which conſiſts, beſides the viſitors and their friends, of the neighbouring gentry and clergy, retire to dinner, which is ſerved up in the library, and in other rooms in the maſter's houſe. At five o'clock they return to the ſchool, and the grammatical diſputations, a very antient exerciſe, are commenced by the ſix ſenior ſcholars. Theſe exerciſes conclude with the repetition of Engliſh or Latin verſes. The examiner then diſtributes, according to the ſtatutes, as an honorary reward, a ſilver pen gilt, to each of the ſix ſenior ſcholars, who on that day walk in proceſſion to the church, before their patrons, with garlands of freſh flowers on their heads, ſuch is the form which has been conſtantly obſerved ever ſince the foundation of the ſchool.

It has always maintained a good reputation, as well for the learning of the ſcholars educated in it, as the eminent abilities of the maſters who have had from time to time the care of it. But the regiſter of the ſchool having been irregularly kept, I have not been able to obtain a complete liſt of the latter; the following are the only names of the maſters that I have met with.

John Proctor, A. M. *firſt maſter* in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Horne, A. M. about 1636, reſigned about 1646.[r]

Nicholas Grey, D. D. about 1650, reſigned 1660.[s]

John Goad, B. D. in 1660, reſigned 1661.[t]

—— *Waſſe*, A. M. obt. 1700.

Thomas Roots, A. M. in 1730, obt. 1714.

Richard Spencer, A. M. in 1714, reſigned 1743.

James Cawthorn, 1743, obt. in 1761.[u]

Johnſon Towers, A. M. 1761, obt. 1770.

Viceſimus Knox, LL. B. in 1771, reſigned 1778.[w]

Viceſimus Knox, D. D. 1778, the preſent maſter.[x]

CHARITIES.

SIR THOMAS SMITH, of London, in 1624, gave by will to the poor of Tunbridge and Bidborough, twelve fourpenny loaves of wheaten bread weekly for ever; and alſo to each of the ſaid poor yearly, cloth for winter garments of the value of 20s. payable by the Skinners company, now of the annual amount of 22l. 8s.

JOHN BRIGHTLING, of Tunbridge, in 1648, gave by will ſix two-penny loaves of bread to ſix poor houſholders of this town; and to the poor of the town, two houſes in Mill, alias Eaſt-lane, for alms-houſes. The former bequeſt is veſted in Martha Summerſham, who pays for the bread of 2l. 12s. per annum produce; the latter have been exchanged for two houſes of a greater value, and are inhabited by the poor.

WILLIAM SULHAM, citizen and merchant taylor of London, in 1578 gave by will an annuity of 3l. 2s. to the poor of this pariſh for ever, iſſuing out of lands belonging to Thomas Hooker, eſq.

MRS. SARAH WARD, of London, widow, in 1664, gave by will 50s. per annum for ever to the poor of this town, payable out of tithes.

r He reſigned on being advanced to the maſterſhip of Eton ſchool. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 178.

s He was firſt maſter of the Charter-houſe ſchool; after which he was ſucceſſively maſter of Merchant Taylors and of Eton ſchools, from which laſt, as well as from his fellowſhip and living, he was ouſted by the Preſbyterians, and was put to great diſtreſſes, till at length he obtained this ſchool at or before the rule of Oliver. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 252.

t He reſigned on being made maſter of Merchant Taylors ſchool. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 838.

u He was buried in this church.

w He retired after his reſignation to Penſhurſt, where he died in 1780, and was buried in the chancel of Tunbridge church.

x Late fellow of St. John's college, Oxford, and author of ſeveral learned and well written publications.

ROBERT

ROBERT GOODHUGH, of Tunbridge, in 1662, gave by will to the poor of this parish 40s. per annum for ever, paid out of lands belonging to Richard Hills and others.

THOMAS LAMPARD, of Tunbridge, in 1593, gave by his will to the poor of this parish, a house in the town called the White-horse, near the Market-cross, now of the annual produce of 9l.

FRANCIS SKEFFINGTON, esq. of Tunbridge, in 1684 gave by will 210l. to purchase an annuity to provide twelve four-penny loaves of wheaten bread weekly for ever, for twelve poor people of this town and Hilden borough, constant frequenters of the church; and in 1695 his trustees purchased an annuity of 10l. 10s. issuing out of the Rose and Crown inn in this town, to the uses of his will.

JOHN PETLEY, gent. of Tunbridge, in 1705, gave by will, six four penny loaves of wheaten bread to six poor people of this town, to be paid out of lands in Brenchley, now vested in John Hooker, esq. and of the annual produce of 5l. 4s.

GEORGE PETLEY, gent. of Tunbridge, gave by will 200l. to be laid out in building six alms-houses, which was afterwards done in Tunbridge town; and the yearly sum of 5l. 4s for six four-penny loves to be distributed weekly to the poor; and the sum of 3l. for ever, for the repair of the houses, and if there were no repairs wanting, then to the poor therein placed; and 3l. per annum to the minister, to preach a sermon on Good-Friday; the monies to be paid out of the tithe-wards of Hayesden and Little Barden in this parish.

CAREW HOLFORD, gent. of Tunbridge, in 1732 gave by deed an annuity of 50s. per annum, to be paid out of lands vested in Samuel Mills, to provide six poor people of this town with six two-penny loaves of wheaten bread, and of the annual produce of 2l. 12s.

THOMAS DEAKINS, gent. of Tunbridge, in 1707, gave to this parish 50l. to put out ten poor boys apprentices; and 50l. more to the poor, which was laid out in building two alms-houses.

GEORGE CHILDREN, esq. of Tunbridge, in 1713 gave by will to the poor of Hilden borough, in Tunbridge, twelve four penny loaves of wheaten bread weekly for ever, to be paid out of lands in Tunbridge and Lyghe, vested in George Children, esq. and of the annual produce of 10l. 8s.

JOHN WILLARD, of Tunbridge, in 1719, gave an annuity of 6l. per annum for ever, issuing out of lands in this parish, to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Tunbridge, to be employed in the schooling and instructing eight poor children of this parish, none to continue longer at school than three years.

HENRY

HENRY BRISTOW, of Tunbridge, gave by his will to ſix poor people of this pariſh, ſix two penny loaves of bread weekly for ever, to be paid out of lands in this pariſh, veſted in Thomas Oliver.

WILLIAM STRONG, eſq. gave by will in 1713, for putting out poor children apprentices, and the ſurplus, if any, to be lent to them, when out of their times, for five years, without intereſt, about forty acres of land in Tunbridge, the truſtees are all dead, and the truſt not renewed, but the churchwardens receive the rents, and employ them for the above purpoſe, now of the annual produce of 14l.

GEORGE PUTLAND gave in 1740 by deed, for putting children to ſchool, in aid of a charity ſchool, whilſt any ſuch ſhall be ſupported by voluntary ſubſcriptions, but when that fails, then to feed the needy poor, an annuity of 2l. 12s. iſſuing out of lands in Tunbridge, which ſum is paid to the ſchoolmaſter of the charity ſchool.

ELIZABETH WELLER, of Tunbridge, ſpinſter, in 1677, gave by will an annuity of 6l. per annum for ever to the miniſter of Tunbridge, and his ſucceſſors, to preach a ſermon on every Aſcenſion-day.

GEORGE HOOPER, of Tunbridge, ſcrivener, gave one dozen and a half of leathern buckets for the uſe of this town, and in 1720, gave a brazen ſconce to this church; and by his will in 1759, gave a ſum of 500l. to new pew and pave it, which was expended accordingly by his truſtees.

SIR THOMAS DYKE, bart. of Lullingſtone, in 1750, ſettled by deed an annuity of 9l. to be expended in inſtructing ſo many boys and girls as could be taught for it; the boys to be taught to read and write Engliſh, and caſt accounts; the girls to read Engliſh, knit, and ſew plain work. The children to be found from Tunbridge and Eynsford, of which Eynsford to find two, and the reſt from Tunbridge, two of which laſt to be out of Hilden borough, if there to be had. The objects of this charity are, ſuch poor children only, whoſe parents are not able, of their own ſubſtance, to have them ſo inſtructed.

There is *a charity ſchool* in this pariſh, ſupported partly by the above-mentioned legacy of 9l. of Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. and partly by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants of this pariſh.

TUNBRIDGE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a large handſome building, having a ſquare tower at the weſt end. It was much ornamented

mented and new pewed ſome years ago, by Mr. Hooper's legacy before-mentioned.

There are many monuments in the different parts of it for the owners of eſtates and principal inhabitants of this pariſh, moſt of whom are mentioned before in the deſcriptions of their ſeats and eſtates, as having been buried in it, but much too numerous to be repeated here; in the church-yard there are many altar tombs of them likewiſe.

At the ſouth-eaſt corner is a handſome tomb of white marble, with a well carved urn ſtanding on it, erected to the memory of the celebrated Anne Elliot, the actreſs, a native of this pariſh, whoſe remains are depoſited in the vault underneath it. She was the daughter of Richard and Mary Elliot, and died in 1769, æt. 26. The following elegant verſes are on the north ſide of it,

Of matchleſs form, adorn'd with wit refin'd,
A feeling heart, and an enlighten'd mind;
Of ſofteſt manners, beauty's rareſt bloom,
Here ELLIOT *lies and moulders in her tomb.*
Oh bleſt with genius! early ſnatch'd away;
The muſe that joyful mark'd thy op'ning ray,
Now, ſad reverſe! attends thy mournful bier,
And o'er thy relics ſheds the guſhing tear.
Here Fancy oft' the hallow'd mould ſhall tread,
Recall THEE *living, and lament* THEE *dead:*
Here Friendſhip oft' ſhall ſigh till life be o'er;
And Death ſhall bid thy image charm no more.

Gilbert de Clare, earl of Hertford, is ſaid to have given this church to the monks of Lewes, in Suſſex; however that be, on his death without iſſue in 1151, his brother and heir Roger de Clare, earl of Hertford, reſumed the property of it, giving the monks the church of Blechingley in exchange for it, and in the next reign of king Henry II. by his charter, gave to the brethren of the hoſpital of St. John of Jeruſalem, the

the church of Tunbridge, with the chapel and appurtenances belonging to it, to the uſe of the poor of that hoſpital, in pure and perpetual alms. And by another grant, he gave and confirmed to them the advowſon of this church, and the right which he had in it. Pope Clement IV. anno 1267, granted licence to the prior and brethren of the hoſpital to take poſſeſſion of this church as an appropriation on the firſt vacancy of it, provided, that a fit portion from the income of it was aſſigned to a perpetual vicar ſerving in it, for his maintenance and the ſupport of the burthens of the church, and they were that year admitted into poſſeſſion of it.

In the 52d year of king Henry III. it was affirmed that the biſhop received an annual penſion of three marcs from the pariſh church of Tunbridge towards the revenues of his table. In the 7th year of king Edward II. it was certified to the king's treaſurer, in obedience to the king's writ, that the prior of the hoſpital poſſeſſed the appropriation of this church, with the chapels of Schiburne and St. Thomas Martyr of Capel, worth yearly ninety marcs. In the 24th year of king Henry VII. it appears, the biſhop received from the vicarage of this church an annual penſion of forty ſhillings. In the 18th year of king Henry VIII. the prior, and the brethren of the hoſpital demiſed to Richard Fane, gent. of Tudeley, their parſonage of Tunbridge, with all its appurtenances, excepting the advowſon, and the woods and underwoods, at the yearly rent of fourteen pounds.[y]

In which ſtate the church continued at the diſſolution of the hoſpital in the 32d year of Henry VIII. when this order was ſuppreſſed by an act ſpecially paſſed for the purpoſe, and all their lands and revenues were given by it to the king, and the fee of it continued in the crown till king Edward VI. in his firſt

[y] Reg. Roff. p. 126, 128, 142, 675.

year,

year, granted both the rectory and advowſon to Sir Ralph Fane, and lady Elizabeth Fane his wife, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice.[z]

On Sir Ralph Fane's death, lady Elizabeth Fane, his widow, became poſſeſſed of them, and in the 2d and 3d year of Philip and Mary, alienated the rectory, with its appurtenances, to Henry Stubberfield, yeoman, of Tunbridge, who ſold it to Alexander Culpeper, by the deſcription of the rectory of Tunbridge, with its appurtenances, and all meſſuages, lands, tenements, tithes, &c. in the pariſh of Tunbridge, in the wards of Tunbridge, Southborough, and Brombridg, and in the great park of South-frith, and in the park and lands incloſed, called North fryth, the Poſtern, and the Cage, parcel of the rectory.

He paſſed it away by ſale in the 7th year of queen Elizabeth, to William Denton, eſq. deſcended from Cumberland, whoſe eldeſt ſon Sir Anthony, poſſeſſed it at his death, in the 25th year of that reign, it being then held *in capite* by knights ſervice. He was one of the gentlemen of the band of penſioners, as well to that queen as to king James I. and dying in 1615, *ſ. p* was buried in this church, where his monument ſtill remains, with the figures at large of himſelf and Elizabeth his wife, both reclining on cuſhions, the former in armour, and the latter in the dreſs of that time. She afterwards married Sir Paul Dewes, of Suffolk. On his death it deſcended to his nephew, William Denton, eſq. and his three brothers, Anthony, Walter, and Arthur, ſons of Sir Alexander Denton, by Anne, grand daughter of lord Windſor, who ſold this parſonage, in different parcels, at times, to ſeveral perſons; to ſome in diſtricts, or tithe-wards, and to others as to their own lands only, which accounts for the ſeveral lands in this pariſh which are now, and

[z] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 6. Rolls of Particulars Augtn. off. box F. 8.

have

have from that time, been exempt from the payment of the rectorial tithes.

At preſent, this parſonage conſiſts of the tithe-wards of *Haiſden* and *Little Barden*, formerly the property of John Petley, eſq. of Oldbery-hill, in Ightham, who probably purchaſed them of the Denton's. He lived in the reign of king Charles I. and at his death deviſed them to Gilbert Wood, gent. of Market-croſs, in Suſſex, who had married Elizabeth his daughter. Their ſon, J. Wood, of Tunbridge, left iſſue an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, who married John Hooker, eſq. of Tunbridge, father of Thomas Hooker, eſq. of Tunbridge, the late poſſeſſor of them.

Hilden, - - by Matthew Smith, eſq.
Poſtern, - - by Mr. James Eldridge;
Town, - - by Sir John Honywood, bart.
Barn Mill, - by Henry Goodwin, eſq. and
Southborough, by Mr. Broadhurſt.

But the advowſon of the vicarage of this church continued in the family of Fane, or as they afterwards wrote themſelves, Vane, ſeated at Hadlow-place, in the adjoining pariſh of that name, in which it continued down to William, viſcount Vane, who dying *ſ. p.* in 1789, gave this advowſon, among the reſt of his eſtates in this county, to David Papillon, eſq. of Acriſe, the preſent owner of it.[a]

The vicarage of Tunbridge is valued in the king's books at twenty pounds three ſhillings and four-pence, and the yearly tenths at two pounds and four-pence.

[a] See Hadlow and Shipborne, vol. v. p. 47.

CHURCH

CHURCH OF TUNBRIDGE.

PATRONS, *Or by whom presented.*	RECTORS.
Prior and convent of Tunbridge...	*William de Ver*, in the reign of king Henry II. the last rector, resigned.[b]
	VICARS.
Family of Vane.	*Sir Thomas*, anno 1393.[c]
	Edw. Ashburnham, A. M. 1630, sequestered 1642.[d]
	John Stileman, A. M. 1649, ob. 1685.[e]
	Richard Higgins, obt. Sept. 30, 1705.
	John Tristam, obt. Oct. 29, 1712.
	William Davis, instit. 1712, obt. Jan. 29, 1747.[f]
	Henry Hemington, 1748, resig. 1756.
	Henry Harpur, A. M. 1756, obt. Oct. 1790.
David Papillon. esq.	*J. R. Papillon*, A. M. present vicar.

b Reg. Roff. p. 666.
c Ibid. p. 468.
d Coll. Bar. vol. iii. p. 285. Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, pt. ii. p. 183.
e Kennet's Chron.
f He was also curate of Shipborne, and lies buried in this church.

THE

HUNDRED OF WACHLINGSTONE.

THE hundred of Wachlingstone encompasses the lowy of Tunbridge on the east, west, and south sides of it. It is written in the survey of Domesday, *Warcheleſtan.*

The king and the archbishop of Canterbury were lords of this hundred in the beginning of king Edward

ward II's reign. How the latter came to be diveſted of his property in it, I have not found; but in the 15th year of that reign, the king was poſſeſſed of the intire fee of it, for he then granted it, by the conſent of parliament, among other eſtates of greater value, to Edmund, of Woodſtock, his half-brother, whom he at the ſame time made earl of Kent, and he died poſſeſſed of it in the 4th year of king Edward III.

After which it paſſed in like manner as the hundred of Littlefield, deſcribed before, till on the attaint of Henry, lord Cobham, in the firſt year of James I. they became forfeited to the crown, and were confirmed to it by an act paſſed ſpecially for that purpoſe, two years afterwards; ſince which, theſe hundreds have continued among the poſſeſſions of the crown, where they remain at preſent.

THIS HUNDRED CONTAINS THE PARISHES OF

1. TUDELEY *in part*;
2. PEMBURY *in part*;
3. BIDBOROUGH; and
4. ASHURST;

And the churches of thoſe pariſhes; and alſo part of the pariſhes of CAPEL, PENSHURST, LYGHE, SPELDHURST, and ſo much of FANT as lies within this county, the churches of which pariſhes are not within this hundred.

TUDELEY

LIES the adjoining pariſh eaſtward from Tunbridge. It is called in Domeſday, TIVELELE, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, THUDELEI.

It is a very obſcure and unfrequented place, lying between the pariſhes of Tunbridge and Capel. The ſituation and ſoil is much the ſame as the latter, lying low, the ſoil a moiſt ſtiff clay, with abundance of large ſpreading oaks throughout it in the hedge rows, which are broad and thick, the village with the church is near the weſtern boundary of it; at ſome diſtance ſouthward is the hamlet of Crookhurſt, beyond

yond which this parish stretches along the southern boundary of Capel, where it is crossed by two small rivulets which flow from hence into the Medway, to the edge of this hundred, where the manor and house of Badsell is situated in a very wet and unpleasant country.

THIS PLACE was part of those vast possessions, with which William the Conqueror enriched his half-brother Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, under the general title of whose lands it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday:

In Wacheleſtan hundred Richard de Tonebridge holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Tivedele. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is one carucate, and there is . . . . in demeſne, and a church, and wood for the pannage of two hogs. It is and was worth fifteen ſhillings. Eddeva held it of the king.

The survey of Domesday was taken about the year 1080; four years after which, the bishop of Baieux's possessions were, on his disgrace, seized on by the king.

BADSELL is the principal manor in this parish, lying at the south-east end of it, which formerly gave both residence and surname to a family, who were some time possessors of it. At length, by a daughter and coheir, Marian Badsell, it was carried in marriage to Thomas Stidulf, from whom the family of that name in Surry were descended; he resided at Badsell, and was only son and heir of Robert, and heir likewise of his uncle Henry Stidulf. He died anno 36 Henry VI. and lies buried with his wife in this church. They left an only daughter and heir Agnes, who carried this manor in marriage to Richard Fane, esq. of Tudeley, who died possessed of it in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. and was buried in the chapel of this church, which he himself had caused to be made. His son, George Fane, esq. resided at Badsell, as did his son, Sir Thomas Fane,

which laſt having married lady Mary, daughter and ſole heir of Henry Nevill, lord Abergavenny, became poſſeſſed of the caſtle and manor of Mereworth, where afterwards he reſided much, as his ſon, Sir Francis Fane, earl of Weſtmoreland, did entirely; ſince which this manſion has been made uſe of only as a farm houſe, and in his deſcendants, earls of Weſtmoreland, this manor continued to John Fane, earl of Weſtmoreland, who dying *ſ. p.* in 1762, it has now at length by the limitations of his will come, with the reſt of his Kentiſh eſtates, into the poſſeſſion of the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of it.

There are no *parochial charities*. The poor relieved yearly are about twenty.

TUDELEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is a ſmall building, has been lately rebuilt of brick, having a ſquare tower at the weſt end, with a ſmall pointed ſpire on it. It is dedicated to All Saints.

The patronage of this church was, about the year 1239, given by Richard de Theudele, Richard de Sardeyne, and Alicia, Agnes, and Cecilia, daughters of John Teudeley, patrons of it, to the prior and canons of Tunbridge; which gift was confirmed by the biſhop, who ſoon afterwards granted licence to them, to appropriate it to their own uſe, on the death or reſignation of John, then rector of it, and in the mean time, that they ſhould receive yearly half a mare from it; but the vicarage was not endowed till the year 1398.

The appropriation of it, together with the advowſon of the vicarage, remained with the priory of Tunbridge, till its final diſſolution, which happened in the 17th year of king Henry VIII. when being one of thoſe ſmaller monaſteries, which cardinal Wolſey had

had obtained of the king by his letters patent, dated February 8, that year, for the endowment of his colleges, it was surrendered, with all the poſſeſſions belonging to it, into the cardinal's hands, and afterwards by the king's letters patent granted to him for the better endowment of his college, called Cardinal's college, in Oxford.[g]

But this church ſtaid with the college only four years; when the cardinal being caſt in a *præmunire* in 1529, all the eſtates of it were forfeited to the king, and became part of the revenue of the crown.

King Edward VI. in his 1ſt year, granted this parſonage and advowſon to Sir Walter Hendley, at the yearly rent of 6s. 3¼d. to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice. He died without male iſſue, leaving three daughters his coheirs.

On the diviſion of their inheritance, this parſonage and advowſon were allotted to the ſecond daughter Helen, who entitled her third huſband, Sir Thomas Fane, of Burſton, in Hunton, to the poſſeſſion of them. After which they paſſed in like manner as Burſton to Vere, Thomas and John Fane, three brothers, ſucceſſively earls of Weſtmoreland, the laſt of whom dying *ſ. p.* in 1762, they are at length come by the limitations of his will, among the reſt of his eſtates in this county, to the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, the preſent owner of them.

The parſonage of Tudeley pays a fee-farm rent to the crown of 6s. 3¼d. yearly.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 4l. 16s. 0½d. and the yearly tenths at 9s. 7½d.

The vicar of Tudeley is inſtituted to this vicarage, with the chapel of Capel annexed.

[g] Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 1037. Tan. Mon. præf. p. xxxv. Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 156.

CHURCH OF TUDELEY.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
Family of Fane.	*Thomas Tharry*, A. M. 1630.
	William Walleys, about 1643.[h]
	Samuel Vanderlure, 1660, obt. Feb. 21, 1699.[i]
	..... *Lion.*
	Edward Dering, A. M. 1702, obt. Dec. 26, 1715.[k]
	Oliver North.
	Stephen Cowper, A. B. 1726, obt. 15, 1750.[l]
	John Hedges, A. M. 1750.
Sir Thomas Stapylton, bart.	*John Loop*, A. B. inſtit. Dec. 29, 1787.

[h] See Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, part ii. p. 399. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. 885.

[i] He lies buried in this church, having been prebendary of Lincoln, and vicar of this and the adjoining pariſh, as his epitaph informs us, near forty years.

[k] Son of Henry Dering, and vicar of Thurnham. He lies buried in this church.

[l] He lies buried in this church.

PEMBURY.

LIES the next adjoining pariſh ſouthward from Tudeley. It is called in the *Textus Roffenſis*, PEPPINGEBERIA, and in antient deeds, *Pepenbery*. It ſeems always to have been pronounced Pembury, and is now uſually written ſo.

THE PARISH *of Pembury*, though of ſmall breadth, extends the length of four miles from north to ſouth, that is from Tudeley to the ſtream at Fant, which ſeparates this county from that of Suſſex, the ſurface of it conſiſts of various hill and dale. The whole has a very woody appearance, and the outer parts every way, excepting towards Tudeley, are greatly covered with coppice woods and quantities of large ſpreading oaks throughout them; the ſoil conſiſts on the higher grounds, eſpecially towards the weſt and ſouth, of ſand,

ſand, and much of the rock ſtone underneath; and in the valleys moſtly of clay, and having plenty of marle for manure, it produces good corn, and the land is of courſe well let. It is watered by ſeveral little ſtreams which riſe here, and run either towards the north into the Medway, oppoſite to Hadlow, or ſouthward towards the ſtream which ſeparates the two counties, and runs by Beyham-abbey towards Lamberhurſt. The church ſtands pretty high and conſpicuous, the principal village is about a mile ſouthward from it, ſtanding round Pembury Upper, and Lower Greens, below which there are ſeveral ſmaller hamlets, built in like manner round the greens. The high road from Tunbridge towards Lamberhurſt and Suſſex, runs through Southfrith woods on the weſtern ſide of the pariſh, and at the thirty-fifth mile ſtone croſſes it, but at Kipping's croſs, ſo called from its having been the early reſidence of that family, it takes its direction along the eaſtern bounds of the pariſh, till it enters Lamberhurſt, in the hundred of Brenchley. In the ſouthern part of this pariſh, about a mile further than the thirty-fifth mile ſtone of the Tunbridge-road is Bay-hall, pleaſantly ſituated on the ſouthern ſide of a hill, and juſt below it the ſmall rivulet, which runs from thence till it joins the larger ſtream near Beyham abbey. A fair is held in this pariſh on Whit-Tueſday yearly for cattle, toys, and pedlary.

THE MANORS OF PEPENBURY MAGNA, and PEPENBURY PARVA, alias BOWRIDGE, with the appendant advowſon of the church, the land of Crockherſt, and other premiſes, were given by Simon de Wahull to the abbey of Begham, in Suſſex; which gift was confirmed by Walter de Wahull, his ſon and heir, and by Richard de Clare, earl of Glouceſter and Hertford. And king Edward III. in his 2d year, granted to the abbot and convent for ever, *free warren* in all their demeſne lands in this pariſh, among others.

These manors continued in the possession of this abbey till its final dissolution, in the 17th year of king Henry VIII. when being one of those smaller monasteries, which cardinal Wolsey had obtained of the king, for the endowment of his college, called Cardinal's college, in Oxford, it was surrendered, with all the possessions belonging to it, into the Cardinal's hands.

But that great prelate being cast in a *præmunire*, about four years afterwards, before he had firmly established his college, these manors, among the rest of its revenues, were seized into the king's hands, and became part of the royal revenue of the crown,[m] where they remained till king Henry VIII. in his 25th year, granted them to Sir Edward Guildford, warden of the cinque ports, &c. to hold by fealty only, and his daughter, and at length sole heir Joane, entitled her husband, Sir John Dudley, to the possession of them; they, in the 30th year of that reign, joined in the conveyance of these manors, with their appurtenances, to Sir Thomas Cromwell, lord Cromwell, who next year procured his lands to be *disgavelled* by the act then passed, and was in the same year created earl of Essex, and quickly afterwards made knight of the garter, and lord high chamberlain of England. But this hasty rise was succeeded by as sudden a ruin; for on the king's displeasure, he was arrested at the council table, and being afterwards tried and convicted of high treason, he was condemned and executed in the 32d year of that reign.[n] On his attainder these manors came again to the crown, whence they were granted, anno 37 king Henry VIII. with other premises in this parish, to William Wybarne, to hold *in capite* by knights service. He bore for his arms, *Sable*,

[m] Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 1037. Tan. Mon. præf. p. xxxv. Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 156.

[n] See more of him in vol. iii. of this history, p. 553.

a fess

a fess between three swans argent, and in his descendants these manors continued down to John Wybarne, esq. who left two daughters his coheirs, Anne, married to Robert Berkeley, esq. of Spetchley, in Worcestershire, and Catherine, to Philip Jones, esq. who in right of their respective wives, on his death, inherited these manors and estates in undivided moieties. Robert Berkeley, esq. above-mentioned, was descended from Sir Robert Berkeley, who was a judge in king Charles I's reign, whose grandson, Robert Berkeley, esq. of Spetchley, married the eldest daughter of Sir Richard Blake, a lady eminent for her exemplary life and conversation. He died in 1693, and his widow, seven years afterwards, married Dr. Burnet, bishop of Salisbury.* The pedigree of the Berkeleys, of Spetchley, is inserted in Nash's history of Worcestershire, where there are many curious particulars relating to them. They bore for their arms, *Gules, a chevron between ten crosses patee argent; on the chevron within a crescent sable a mullet, or*, quartered with the coats of Brotherton, Mowbray, Brewose, Segrave, Fitz-Alan of Clun, Albani, or Arundel, and Warner, as may be seen on their monuments in Spetchley church.

These manors continued afterwards in the situation above-mentioned, and in 1777 an act passed to enable Robert Berkeley and Philip Jones, esqrs. to sell them, among others in this county and Sussex, but nothing was done in consequence of it till about the year 1788, when these manors, with the parsonage and appendant advowson of the church of Pembury were sold by Robert Berkeley and John, son and heir of Philip Jones, then of Lanark, in Monmouthshire, to William Woodgate, esq. of Somerhill, the present owner of them.

* See Biog. Brit. vol. ii. p. 1041. note K. K.

HALKWELL, commonly called *Hawkwell*, is a manor on the eaſtern ſide of this pariſh, which conſiſts at preſent of two farms called *Great and Little Hawkſwells*, and is held of the ſuperior manor of Tipperidge, in this pariſh likewiſe. This eſtate was once the property and reſidence of a family of that name; after which, it appears by the regiſter of Begham abbey, to have become part of the poſſeſſions of that abbey, with which it remained till its diſſolution in the 17th year of king Henry VIII. when it was obtained by cardinal Wolſey, towards the endowment of his college, called Cardinal's college, in Oxford; but on his being caſt in a *præmunire*, about four years afterwards, before he had firmly eſtabliſhed his college, this manor, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions, became forfeited to the crown, from whence it was preſently granted to John Wybarne, of Culverdens, in this pariſh, who had been tenant to the abbey for this manor before the ſuppreſſion of it, being deſcended of a family ſeated near Crofton, in Orpington, about the end of king Henry III.'s reign, whence they removed to Culverdens, ſome generations before the reign of king Henry VIII. and it continued for ſeveral generations in his deſcendants, being the manſion in which they reſided ſo long as they remained in this county, until it devolved, in like manner as the manors of Pembury above-deſcribed, to Robert Berkeley and John Jones, eſqrs. by whom it was conveyed about the year 1786 to Pollard, ſince which it has become the property of James Lewin, eſq. the preſent owner of it.

THE MANOR OF BAYHALL, which lies in the ſouthern part of this pariſh, was part of the antient poſſeſſions of the eminent family of Colepeper, whoſe demeſnes ſpread over the whole face of this county, but more eſpecially the weſtern parts of it.

The two principal branches of it were ſeated at this manor of Bayhall, and at Aylesford, from the latter

latter deſcended thoſe of Oxenhoath, and of Preſton, in Aylesford, barts. both now extinct; and from the former, thoſe of Bedgbury, which terminated in the lords Colepeper, of Leeds caſtle; thoſe of Loſenham, in Newenden, afterwards of Hollingborne, the heir male of which branch is John Spencer Colepeper, eſq. late of the Charter-houſe, and thoſe of Wakehurſt, in Suſſex, barts. now extinct.

The firſt of the family of Colepeper, eminent on record, is Thomas de Colepeper, who, as appears by the bundles in the pipe-office, was one of the *recognitores magnæ aſſiſæ*, or juſtices of the great aſſiſe, in the reign of king John, an office of no ſmall truſt and conſequence, before the eſtabliſhment of conſervators of the peace.

His deſcendant, Sir Thomas Colepeper, was poſſeſſed of the manor of Bayhall, where he reſided, and ſeems to have left two ſons, Thomas, of whom hereafter; and Walter, who was anceſtor of the Colepepers, of Oxenhoath, and of Preſton, in Aylesford, baronets.[p]

Sir Thomas Colepeper, the eldeſt ſon, inherited Bayhall, and was caſtellan of Leeds caſtle under the lord Badleſmere, in the reign of king Edward II. in the 15th year of which he was executed, for refuſing queen Iſabel entrance into his caſtle, upon which this manor became forfeited to the crown, whence it was ſoon afterwards reſtored to his ſon, but whether by that prince's indulgence, or by any family entail, I do not find.

John Colepeper, eſq. the ſon, kept his ſhrievalty at Bayhall in the 39th, 40th, and 43d years of king Edward III. and married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir John Hardreſhull, of Hardreſhull, in Warwickſhire, by whom he had a ſon, Sir Thomas

[p] See Lamb. Per. p. 601, and Aylesford, vol. iv. p. 436.

Colepeper,

Colepeper, who ſucceeded him in this manor, and reſided at Bayhall. He was ſheriff in the 17th and 18th years of king Richard II. from whom he procured licence to incloſe fifty acres of land into a park at Pembury.

He left by Alianor his wife, daughter and coheir of Nicholas Green, eſq. of Exton, in Rutlandſhire, three ſons; Sir Thomas Colepeper, Walter Colepeper, of Goudhurſt, anceſtor of the branches of this family ſettled afterwards at Bedgbury, Loſenham, Leeds, Hollingborne, and Wakehurſt, and Nicholas, who ended in a daughter, married to Walter Lewknor, eſq. and alſo a daughter Alianore, married to Sir Reginald Cobham, of Sterborough. Sir Thomas Colepeper, the eldeſt ſon, who was of Exton, in Rutlandſhire,[a] ſeems to have alienated this manor in the reign of king Henry VI. to Humphry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, whoſe grandſon Henry, duke of Buckingham, became one of the chief confidents of Richard, duke of Glouceſter, afterwards king Richard III. and the principal agent in advancing him to the throne, but being attainted in the 1ſt year of that reign, his poſſeſſions became forfeited to the crown, and the king made a grant of this manor, to the value of one hundred ſhillings, to John Water, alias Yorke Heraulde; but on the acceſſion of the earl of Richmond to the crown ſoon afterwards, by the title of king Henry VII. an act paſſing for the reſtitution of Edward, ſon and heir of Henry, duke of Buckingham, he became entitled to the inheritance of all the eſtates of the late duke, his father, and he had accordingly poſſeſſion granted him of this manor among the reſt of them, but this duke being likewiſe accuſed and found guilty of high treaſon in the 13th year of king Henry the VIIIth's reign, an act paſſed for his attainder, and though another paſſed likewiſe for the reſtitution in blood of

[a] Called John by Dugale, in his Baronage, vol. ii, p. 416.

Henry,

Henry, his eldeſt ſon, yet it did not extend to his honors and lands, which remained forfeited to the crown, where the fee of this manor remained till Edward VI. in his 1ſt year, granted it to William Parr, marquis of Northampton, who that year conveyed it to Sir Anthony Browne, knight of the garter, who had been maſter of the horſe to king Henry VIII. and of his privy council; and he, in the very beginning of the next year, alienated it to William Wybarne, one of whoſe deſcendants ſold it, in the 7th year of James I. to Robert Sackville, earl of Dorſet, who died poſſeſſed of it within a few months after his purchaſe. His eldeſt ſurviving ſon Richard, earl of Dorſet, alienated this manor, with the ſeat belonging to it, to Richard Amherſt, eſq. ſerjeant-at-law, who afterwards reſided at Bayhall. He was the ſon of Richard Amherſt, eſq. who left three ſons; Richard, ſerjeant at-law, as above-mentioned; Jeffry, rector of Horſmonden, anceſtor of that branch of the family ſettled at Riverhead, in Sevenoke, and William, who left an only daughter. This family of Amherſt bear for their arms, *Gules, three tilting-ſpears, two and one, erected in pale, or, headed argent*; which coat was confirmed to Richard Amherſt, eſq. by William Camden, clarencieux, in 1607.[r] Sergeant Amherſt died poſſeſſed of this eſtate in 1632.

His grandſon, Charles Amherſt, eſq. was of Bayhall likewiſe, and died *ſ. p.* in 1709, and by his will deviſed this manor and ſeat, together with all his other lands and poſſeſſions, to his nephew and heir at-law, Charles Selby, eſq. ſon of Sir Henry Selby, ſergeant-at-law, and recorder of London, (the ſecond ſon of George Selby, eſq. of Ightham) by Elizabeth his eldeſt ſiſter, at the ſame time enjoining him to take on him the ſurname and arms of Amherſt.

[r] Harl. MSS. No. 1084. 12. See more of this family under Riverhead, vol. iii. p. 93.

Charles

Charles Selby Amherſt, eſq. accordingly inhabited Bayhall, where he reſided, but dying *ſ. p.* he by his will gave this manor and ſeat of Bayhall, with the reſt of his eſtates, to his nephew Charles Browne, eſq. counſellor-at-law, ſon of Dorothy his ſiſter, by John Browne, eſq. of Salop. He reſided at Bayhall, where he died in 1753, and was buried in this church, leaving no iſſue by Elizabeth Mittel his wife, who ſurvived him, and afterwards reſided here, where ſhe died in 1790, ſoon after which this eſtate was ſold to Thomas Streatfield, eſq. the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

A court leet and court baron is holden for this manor.

DENCROUCH, HIGHLANDS, and PRIGLES, are three ſmall manors in this pariſh, which formerly belonged to the Ciſtertian abbey of Robertſbridge, in Suſſex, with which they remained till the final diſſolution of it, when that abbey was ſurrendered into the king's hands, with all its lands and poſſeſſions; all which were confirmed to the king and his heirs by the general words of the act, paſſed in the 31ſt year of his reign, for that purpoſe.

Soon after which, the king granted them to George Guldeford, eſq. (ſon of Sir Richard, knight banneret, and of the garter) who quickly after conveyed them by ſale to Sir Alexander Colepeper, of Bedgbury, who had a confirmation of them from the crown, about the 35th year of that reign. His great-grandſon, Sir Anthony Colepeper, of Bedgbury, alienated theſe manors in the beginning of king James I.'s reign, to Nicholas Miller, eſq. of Horſnells-crouch, in Wrotham, when they paſſed from his deſcendants I have not found, only that they afterwards went into the poſſeſſion of Pollard, and in 1766 they were the property of Elizabeth Pollard, widow, ſince which they have come into the poſſeſſion of James Lewin, eſq. who now owns them.

TIPPERIDGE is a manor in this pariſh, which has been many years in the poſſeſſion of the family of Nevill,

vill, lords Abergavenny, the preſent proprietor being the right hon. Henry Nevill, earl of Abergavenny.

CHARITIES.

CHARLES AMHERST, eſq. of Bayhall, by will in 1702, directed that the ſeveral perſons to whom he had deviſed the manor of Bayhall, with its appurtenances ſucceſſively, under the limitations therein expreſſed, ſhould build an alms houſe, for ſix old, blind, or impotent perſons of this pariſh, within one year after his death, and the death of his ſiſters, dame Elizabeth Selby, and Mrs. Dorothy Amherſt, and ſhould allow each of them twenty ſhillings a month for ever, The ſaid perſons to be appointed from time to time by thoſe to whom that manor, with its appurtenances, ſhould remain, after the houſe ſhould be built.

The poor who receive conſtant relief yearly from this pariſh are about twenty-five.

PEMBURY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, has a ſpire ſteeple at the weſt end. It was built by one of the family of Colepeper, patrons of it, and moſt probably by John Colepeper, eſq. in the reign of king Edward III. for on the three buttreſſes on the ſouth ſide of the chancel, there remain three ſhields of coat armour, each carved on an entire ſtone of about two feet and an half in depth, and the breadth equal with that of the buttreſs, which ſhews them to be coeval with that of the building itſelf. On the firſt is a rectangular croſs; the ſecond is the coat armour of Hardreſhull, *A chevron between eight martlets*, viz. *five and three*, the above-mentioned John Colepeper having married the coheir of that family; the third is that of Colepeper, *a bend engrailed*. On a very antient ſtone on the pavement of the chancel, is an antient inſcription in old French, for Margaret, the daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper, which ſeems as early as the above mentioned reign. There are ſeveral monuments and memorials in it of the family of Amherſt and their relatives;

latives; an inſcription and figure in braſs for Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Rowe, eſq. of Hawkwell, anno 1607; a tomb for George Bolney, eſq. who married a Wybarne; and in the porch are two antient ſtones with croſſes on them.

The advowſon of the church of Pembury was given with it, by Simon de Wahull, to the abbey of Begham, in Suſſex, in pure and perpetual alms, as has been already mentioned.

Pope Gregory IX. anno 1239, granted licence to the abbot and convent to hold this church, then of their patronage, and not of greater value than ten marcs, as an appropriation upon the firſt vacancy of it, reſerving, a competent portion for a vicar out of the profits of it. Notwithſtanding which, it was not appropriated till the year 1278, when Richard Oliver, the rector, reſigned it into the hands of John de Bradfield, biſhop of Rocheſter, who granted his letters mandatory, for the induction of the abbot and convent into the corporal poſſeſſion of the church, with its appurtenances, according to the tenor of the above-mentioned bull.[a]

The parſonage of the church of Pembury, with the advowſon of the vicarage *appendant* to the manor, continued with the abbey of Begham till the diſſolution of it in the 27th year of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, after which it paſſed in the ſame tract of ownerſhip as the manor of Pembury, and appendant to it, till it became the property of William Woodgate, eſq. lord of that manor, and the preſent patron of it.

It is a diſcharged living, of the clear yearly certified value of 46l. 10s. the yearly tenths of which are 12s. 8d.

[a] Reg. Roff. p. 517. Where ſee the confirmations of this church to the abbey.

Charles

Charles Amherſt, eſq. of Bayhall, by his will in 1702, gave as an augmentation to this vicarage, the ſum of ten pounds to be paid yearly by ſuch perſons to whom the manor of Bayhall, with its appurtenances, ſhould come and remain after his death.

In 1733 the Rev. George May, vicar, augmented it with the ſum of 100l. 17s. 6d. to entitle it to the benefit of queen Anne's bounty.

There is an annual penſion of forty ſhillings paid out of the parſonage to the vicar, which was ſettled on him and his ſucceſſors, at the time of the appropriation of this church. The tithes of corn and grain of which this parſonage conſiſts are now worth about one hundred and twenty pounds per annum.

The vicarage is now worth about one hundred and fifty pounds per annum.

KING EDWARD III. in his 28th year, in conſideration of twenty marcs paid to him by John Colepeper, of Bayhall, granted licence to him to found a perpetual chantry for a chaplain to celebrate daily for his ſoul, and thoſe of his anceſtors in the chapel of St. Mary, in the cemetery of this church, and to endow it with lands and rents in this and the adjoining pariſhes; and in his 38th year, in conſideration of one hundred ſhillings paid to him by the prior and convent of Rocheſter, he granted licence for them to aſſign an annual rent charge of ten marcs out of their manor of Woldeham, to the before-mentioned chaplain.

This chantry remained till the general ſuppreſſion of ſuch foundations, by the act of the 1ſt year of king Edward VI. at which time it appeared by the ſurvey then taken of it, that the total revenues of it were 11l. 15s. 4d. per annum. Soon after which the building itſelf was pulled down, and the materials ſold, and the lands belonging to it were granted in parcels to different perſons. The chapel was ſituated in the church-yard, without the church, being covered with lead, and was in length thirty feet, and in breadth eighteen

eighteen feet. In 1553, there remained a penſion of 6l. 13s. 4d. in charge to Richard Hill, the laſt incumbent of this chauntry.[t]

CHURCH OF PEMBURY.

PATRONS, Or by whom preſented.	RECTORS.
Abbot and convent of Begham.	*Richard Oliver*, laſt rector, reſigned 1278.[u]
	VICARS.
Lords of the manor of Pembury ...	*Charles Hutchinſon*, in 1630.
	James Plate, ſequeſtered about 1640.
	..... *Barriſford.*
	..... *Woodward*, 1702.
	George May, A. M. inſtit. May 4, 1731, obt. Dec. 1738.
	..... *Elcock*, inſtit. Dec. 29, 1738, obt. 1752.
	John Whitaker, A. M. 1752, the preſent vicar.

[t] Willis's Mitred Abbeys, vol. ii. p. 104.

[u] Reg. Roff. p. 516.

BIDBOROUGH.

LIES weſtward from Pembury, and the adjoining pariſh to Tunbridge ſouthward.

THIS PARISH is ſituated both pleaſant and healthy, it is but of ſmall extent, and is incircled on three ſides by the pariſh of Tunbridge, and on the fourth by Speldhurſt; it lies moſtly on high ground, the ſoil is in the higher parts a ſand covering the quarry rock ſtone. The low lands extend weſtward along the ſtream by Barden furnace to Pound's bridge, which ſeparates this pariſh from that of Tunbridge, and here the ſoil is of clay and very wet, but the whole of it is rather an unfertile ſoil. The high road from Tunbridge

bridge town towards the Wells, runs along the eastern side of this parish, close to the west side of which is the seat and grounds of Bounds, the residence of the countess dowager of Darnley; adjoining is the hamlet of Southborough, which is within the parish of Tunbridge.

In the reign of king Edward I. George le Chaun was in possession of this place;* but before the 20th year of king Edward III. the property of it seems to have been divided, for that year, on the levying the aid of forty shillings on every knight's fee, for making the black prince a knight, Thomas Chaune, the prior of Tunbridge, and John Bounde, junior, paid aid for it as one knight's fee, which George le Chaun before held in Bitberg, la Leigh, Falding, and Bokingfold, of the earl of Gloucester.

The manor of Bidborough continued in the name of Chaun till the reign of king Edward IV. when, together with an antient seat in this parish, now called Bounds, (though formerly, as appears by the antient deeds of it, Boons tenement, perhaps a contraction from the name of Bohun, a family who might have been the early owners of it) it passed into that of Palmer, one of which, Thomas Palmer, died possessed of them in the 23d year of king Henry VII. holding them of the duke of Buckingham by knights service. John Palmer was his son and heir, who in the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign alienated them to the family of Fane, alias Vane, one of whom, Sir Ralph Fane, knight banneret, in the 6th year of king Edward VI. espousing too zealously the interest of the duke of Somerset, was found guilty of high treason, and executed on Tower-hill. On his attainder, this manor and seat became vested in the crown, where they remained till queen Elizabeth, by letters patent in her first year, granted them to her kinsman Henry Carey, lord

* Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

Hunſdon, who at his death in the 38th year of that reign, deviſed them by his will to his eldeſt ſon and ſucceſſor, George, lord Hunſdon, who died in 1603, leaving an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas Berkeley, K. B. eldeſt ſon and heir of Henry, lord Berkeley, who in her right became poſſeſſed of this manor and ſeat, which he ſoon afterwards alienated to Sir Thomas Smith, ſecond ſon of Cuſtomer Smith, of Weſtenhanger, in this county,[x] who bore for his arms, *Azure, a chevron ingrailed between three lions paſſant, guardant, or.* He afterwards reſided at Sutton at Hone, where he died, and was buried in 1625; his grandſon Robert Smythe, eſq. reſided at Bounds, but his ſon Robert Smythe, eſq. removed to Sutton, and died in 1695, poſſeſſed of this manor and ſeat, leaving Katherine his wife ſurviving, and two ſons, Henry and William, to whom this manor and ſeat of Bounds deſcended as heirs in gavelkind.

In the 10th year of king William III. an act was obtained to veſt this manor and ſeat, and all other their eſtates in this pariſh, among others in this county, in truſtees, to diſcharge incumbrances, for ſale, but the other eſtates elſewhere being found ſufficient to diſcharge thoſe incumbrances, this manor, with Bounds, and all their other eſtates in Bidborough, ſtill continued unalienated. On the death of William Smythe, the ſecond ſon above-mentioned unmarried, Henry Smythe, eſq. poſſeſſed the whole fee of this manor and ſeat, and reſided at Bounds. He died in 1706, and was buried in Sutton church, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, only daughter of Dr. John Lloyd, canon of Windſor, (afterwards married to William Hunt, eſq.) an only ſon and heir, Sir Sydney Stafford Smythe, late chief baron of the exchequer, and of the privy council, who married Sarah, eldeſt daughter of Sir Charles Farnaby, bart. of Kepington, and died *ſ. p.* in 1778,

[x] See more of him under Sutton, vol. ii. p. 349,

as

as did his widow, the lady Sarah Smythe in 1790, and by her will deviſed this eſtate, among others, in truſt, to be ſold for the benefit of her nephews and nieces, which it accordingly was ſoon afterwards to the right hon. John, earl of Darnley, in whom the fee of it is now veſted, but his mother the counteſs dowager of Darnley now reſides at Bounds.

A court baron is held for this manor.

CHARITIES.

Sir Thomas Smith, who died in 1725, gave by will certain tenements in London, charged with the yearly payment of 5l. 10s. to this pariſh, to be diſpoſed of 5l. 4s. for ſix four-penny loaves weekly to ſix poor perſons of this pariſh, and the remaining 6s. to be diſpoſed of, 2s. to each church-warden, and 2s. to the clerk. The ſame eſtate is likewiſe charged by him with the payment of 6l. yearly for providing a piece of cloth of 20s. value for the cloathing of ſix poor perſons; an additional two-penny loaf is likewiſe given yearly by the ſame charity to each of the ſaid ſix poor perſons, veſted in the Skinners company, in London, and now of the annual produce of 11l. 10s.[y]

Bidborough is in the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church is dedicated to St. Laurence, there are no memorials in it. It is a rectory, and was always eſteemed as an appendage to the manor, till lady Smythe gave it by will in 1790 to the Rev. Mr. Venn, who is the preſent patron of it.

It is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 10s. 5½d.

This rectory has been augmented by queen Anne's bounty, with which ſome adjoining land has been purchaſed, which now makes a very conſiderable addition to the glebe.

The preſent rector, Mr. Brock, has new built the parſonage houſe near the church, in a handſome ſtyle, after a deſign of Mr. Wyatt's.

[y] Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 61.

CHURCH OF BIDBOROUGH.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Lords of the manor of Bidborough,	*Hugo Wilcox*, A. M. in 1630. *Nath. Bounds*, obt. 1716. *Richard Davis*, obt. Dec. 1731. *Edmund Latter*, A. M. Jan. 5, 1731, obt. May 11, 1788.[a] *John Brock*, A. M. 1788, the preſent rector.[b]

[a] In 1737 he had a diſpenſation for holding the rectory of Burſtow, in Surry, with this of Bidborough.

[b] And vicar of Great Stukeley, in Huntingdonſhire.

ASHURST.

LIES ſouthweſtward from Bidborough on the confines of this county next Suſſex, from which it is ſeparated both on the ſouth and weſt ſides by a ſmall ſtream.

This place is written in the *Textus Roffenſis*, ASCHERST. It took its name from the Saxon word, *æſces*, aſh trees, and the Britiſh *hyrſt*, i. e. the wood of aſhes.

ASHURST lies at the ſouthern boundaries of this county, a ſtream of the Medway ſeparating it from Suſſex, and bounding the weſtern and ſouthern ſides of this pariſh. It is in the hundred of Wachlingſtone, which here joins the reſt of it by a narrow ſlip running eaſtward by Tophill and Mitchel's farms, towards Ruſthall common and Biſhopſdown in Speldhurſt. The northern part of it joins both to Penſhurſt and Speldhurſt, in the hundred of Somerden, a part of which joins the weſtern part of this pariſh, ſeparated from the reſt of that hundred, and containing the hamlet of Groombridge, in Speldhurſt. This pariſh conſiſts of hill and dale, the weſtern part is woody, the ſoil a ſtiff clay, wet and miry, and rather unfertile. The church is ſituated on the weſt ſide of the pariſh, about a quar-

ter

ter of a mile from the river, which here ſeparating, forms a ſmall iſland, on each ſide of which there is a bridge, over which the road leads into Suſſex; there is no village, the houſes being interſperſed at different ſpots throughout it. In this pariſh is a ſeat and eſtate, called *Aſhurſt-place*, formerly admiral Forbes's, now the property and reſidence of Peter Leſevre, eſq.[b]

THE MANOR OF ASHURST, *with the manor of Buckland* appendant, was part of thoſe lands aſſigned to Jeffry de Peverel, for his aſſiſtance in the defence of Dover-caſtle, and with other lands made up the barony of Peverel, as it was then called, being held of that caſtle *in capite* by barony.

Nicholas de Gerund afterwards held this manor, and its appendage of Buckland, and the advowſon of the church of Aſhurſt, of the king *in capite*, and died poſſeſſed of them in the 52d year of king Henry III. His deſcendant, Richard Gerund, in the reign of king Edward III. leaving an only daughter Maud; ſhe carried them in marriage to Sir Henry de Chalſhunt, who bore for his arms, *three bends ermine*, and he died poſſeſſed of them in the 45th year of it, anno 1370, holding them *in capite*, and performing ward to the caſtle of Dover.

They continued in his deſcendants till Henry V.'s reign, when by the heir general of this family they came to Robert le Hadde, who was afterwards of Frinſted, in this county;[c] his deſcendant, Rob. Hadde, eſq. of Frinſted, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry VIII. conveyed this eſtate to William Waller, eſq. of Groombridge, who died in the 18th year of that reign, and it continued in his deſcendants till Sir Thomas Waller, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Thomas Sackville, earl of Dorſet,

[b] This ſeat in Additions to vol. iii. p. 559, is by miſtake mentioned as in Speldhurſt pariſh.

[c] Philipott, p. 57. Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Hadde. See more of this family under Frinſted.

and lord treaſurer of England, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1608. His grandſon, Richard, earl of Dorſet, conveyed the manor of Aſhurſt, with its appendages, to Sir George Rivers, of Chafford, whoſe eldeſt ſon, John Rivers, eſq. was created a baronet in the 19th year of king James I. two years after which his lands, as well as thoſe of his father, were *diſgavelled* by an act then particularly paſſed for that purpoſe. On his father's death he ſucceeded him in this eſtate, which continued in his deſcendants until Sir George Rivers, bart. dying in 1734 without iſſue male, by his will deviſed it, with his ſeat of Chafford, among his other real eſtates, to his five natural children, but his ſurviving legitimate daughters, and the heirs of thoſe deceaſed, filed a bill in chancery to ſet this deviſe aſide, and after a proceſs at law, and ſeveral decrees, the court ordered the eſtates to be ſold in 1743,[d] which this of Aſhurſt, together with Chafford, accordingly was to Mr. William Saxby, gent. of Horſted Cayns, in Suſſex, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1783, in which it was afterwards ſold in purſuance of his will to Robert Burges, eſq. of Lyghe, who died in 1794, ſince which his widow, Mrs. Sarah Burges, re-marrying James Harbroc, eſq. he is become in her right the preſent poſſeſſor of this eſtate.

A court baron is held for this manor, a heriot is paid on the death of a tenant of the beſt live beaſt.

There are no *parochial* charities. The poor relieved yearly are about eleven.

ASHURST is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church is a low mean building, with a wooden ſteeple, over the porch are the arms of Sir John Rivers, who gave the dial. There are no memorials in

[d] See more of the family of Rivers, and the title of this eſtate under Chafford, vol. iii. p. 250.

it.

it. In this church, before the reformation, was a famous rood, or crucifix, which was much reſorted to for its ſuppoſed miraculous powers.

This rectory is a diſcharged living, of the clear yearly value, as certified, of thirty-five pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 10s. 5½d.

The church of Aſhurſt was antiently eſteemed as an appendage to the manor, and continued ſo till the reign of king James I. when Richard, earl of Dorſet, alienating the manor, reſerved the church to himſelf; ſince which it has continued in his deſcendants, the preſent patron being his grace, John, duke of Dorſet.

CHURCH OF ASHURST.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Lords of the manor of Aſhurſt. ...	*Thomas*, about the time of king Edward III.
	Theophilus Beck, A. M. obt. 1715.[e]
	Thomas Winterbottom, 1715, obt. 1717.[f]
	..... *Penneton*, 1721.
	Thomas Reves, inſtit. 1723.
	Richard Onley, A. M. 1772, ob. 1780.[g]
	C. Davis, 1788, the preſent rector.

[e] And vicar of Birling.

[f] He likewiſe ſucceeded Mr. Beck in the vicarage of Birling.

[g] In 1772, a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding this rectory with Speldhurſt.

THE

HUNDRED

OF

BRENCHLEY AND HORSMONDEN

LIES next ſouthward from that of Wachlingſtone, it is not mentioned in the general ſurvey of Domeſday. In the 7th year of king Edward I. as well as in the 20th year of king Edward III. it was called the hundred of Brencheſley only. The addition ſince of the name of Horſemonden, being in fact no more than the name of one of the two half hundreds into which this hundred was then divided.

In the 7th year of king Edward I. the king and the archbiſhop of Canterbury were lords of this hundred.

IT CONTAINS PART OF THE PARISHES OF

1. BRENCHLEY;
2. LAMBERHURST, *and*
3. HORSEMONDEN;

And the churches of thoſe pariſhes.

BRENCHLEY

WRITTEN in old deeds BRANCHESLE, and in the *Textus Roffenſis*, BTÆNCESLE, lies the next pariſh eaſtward from Pembury. The village of it is, almoſt all of it, within this hundred, though the hundred of Twyford extends itſelf over a narrow diſtrict of the north-eaſt part of this pariſh into the town of Brenchley, ſome of the houſes of which on the eaſtern ſide are within the juriſdiction of it.

The boroughs of Stoberfield and Roeden, in this pariſh, are within the manors of Eaſt Farleigh and

Eaſt

East Peckham, of which the lands in them are held in free ſocage tenure.[h]

THIS PARISH is of large extent, being upwards of four miles from north to ſouth, and about three in width. It conſiſts of hill and dale, the ſoil is various, on the hill on which the village ſtands, it is a ſand, intermixed with much of the rock or ſand ſtone, which ſoil continues moſtly over the northern part of it, and towards Horſemonden green, the reſt of it is a ſtiff miry clay in winter, excepting the high road, hardly paſſable, and in ſummer has a cakey ſurface, as hard as iron.

This pariſh is very woody, eſpecially on the ſkirts of it, the whole of it has a dreary gloomy aſpect, as well from that as from the quantities of large ſpreading oaks throughout it. The houſes, which are moſtly old-faſhioned timbered buildings, are ſituated in general round the different ſmall greens or foſtals; the bye roads here are broad, and covered on each ſide with green ſwerd, and in wet weather, as well as the country round them very deep and miry; the farms are but ſmall, and of moderate rents, and there are ſeveral plantations of hop-ground belonging to them.

The village, or town of Brenchley, as it is frequently ſtiled in antient writings, is ſituated pleaſant enough on a hill, the turnpike road leading through it towards Horſemonden, Goudhurſt, and the ſouthern parts of the Weald. The houſes in it are moſtly large well-timbered buildings, and of antient date; at the ſouth end of it is the church and parſonage; at a ſmall diſtance eaſtward is a ſeat called BROADOAK, which was in queen Elizabeth's reign purchaſed of ſeveral perſons, by George Paine, citizen of London, whoſe heirs in 1698 alienated it to Mr. John Hooker, of Weſt-Peckham, younger brother of Thomas, the grandfather of Thomas Hooker, eſq. late of Tunbridge, his ſon of

[h] Augmentation-office, Parliamentary Surveys.

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the ſame name, died in 1717, whoſe third ſon Stephen at length became poſſeſſed of it, and left one ſon, John Hooker, eſq. now of Broadoak, which he rebuilt. He married Mary, daughter of Thomas Cooke, of the county of Salop, by whom he has one ſon Stephen, and now reſides in it.

About a mile weſtward of the village, among others round Matfield-green, is a modern houſe belonging to Mr. Bowls Merchant, whoſe father Thomas Merchant, built it about ſixty years ago, and he reſides here as his anceſtors have done for ſome generations. At no great diſtance eaſtward from Broadoak, at Caſtle-hill, juſt at the point of the eminence, ſtands the remarkable toll of trees, called Brenchley toll, which from their high ſituation, are a remarkable object for many miles round.

In the adjoining wood there are the remains of a ſquare mote, containing between three and four acres of ground, probably the ſcite of ſome manor. This wood, and the farm belonging to it, are the property of Mr. John Monckton, they have now no particular name, but have the reputation of having had a very extenſive manor once belonging to them.

There are the remains of another mote or intrenchment in this pariſh, of great width and depth, undoubtedly incloſing a building of conſiderable ſtrength; the area of which is, I think, not quite ſo large as that above-mentioned. There is no name uſed either to the wood or farm adjoining to it. The family of Daffy, of Rumford, in Eſſex, were formerly owners of it, and continued ſo till one of them alienated it to Mr. Thomas Outeridge, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

THE MANOR OF BRENCHLEY was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the noble family of Clare, the deſcendants of which were afterwards earls of Glouceſter and Hertford, an ample account of whom and their deſcendants has already been given in the deſcription of the manor and caſtle of Tunbridge, with which this manor continued

nued in like manner down to Edward, duke of Buckingham, who being found guilty of high treaſon, and beheaded in the 13th year of king Henry the VIIIth's reign, an act paſſed for his attainder, and another for the reſtitution of his ſon Henry in blood, but not to his honors and lands. After which the manor of Brenchley reſted in the crown, till the king, in his 31ſt year, granted it, with other premiſes in this pariſh, to Paul Sydnor, eſq. whoſe ſon William Sydnor, in the 20th year of queen Elizabeth, paſſed it away by ſale to William Lambarde, eſq. of Greenwich, the perambulator, who ſettled it on the alms-houſe he had founded in that pariſh, called queen Elizabeth's hoſpital, with this limitation, that the heirs male of his line ſhould hold it in leaſe for ever, and in caſe they failed, the laſt of them ſhould have power to diſpoſe of his intereſt in it, by will. By virtue of which reſervation, the leaſe of this manor has paſſed in direct ſucceſſion to Multon Lambard, eſq. of Sevenoke, in this county, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.[1]

CRIOLS is another manor here, lying about a mile and a half ſouth weſt from Brenchley village, which in the reign of king Henry III. was in the poſſeſſion of the eminent family of Criol, in which reign Bertram de Criol held it, as half a knight's fee, of Alicia de Waltham, as ſhe again did of the earl of Glouceſter. He reſided at Oſtenhanger, in this county, which ſeat he rebuilt, and being much in the king's favor, among other offices of truſt, was made ſheriff of Kent in the 16th and 26th years of that reign, and had the cuſtody of the caſtles of Dover and Rocheſter committed to him. His great grandſon, John de Criol, died in the 34th year of king Edward the Iſt.'s reign, leaving Joane his ſiſter his next heir, married to Sir Richard de Rokeſle, who in her right inherited this manor. His eldeſt daughter and coheir Agnes, married Thomas

[1] See Sevenoke, vol. iii. p. 89.

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de Poynings, and intitled him to this manor, in whoſe name and deſcendants it continued down to Sir Edward Poynings, a man much in favor with king Henry VII. and VIII. being governor of Dover-caſtle, lord-warden of the cinque ports, and knight of the garter, and he died poſſeſſed of it in the 14th year of the latter reign, anno 1522, not only without legitimate iſſue, but without any collateral kindred, who could make claim to his eſtates; ſo that this manor, among others, eſcheated to the crown, where it ſeems to have remained till that king, in his 31ſt year, granted it, with other premiſes in this pariſh, to Paul Sydnor, eſq. his agent to the court of Spain, who died in the 6th year of king Edward VI. and his ſon William, who had not poſſeſſion of it till the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, paſſed it away in the 20th year of that reign, with the manor of Brenchley as above-mentioned, to William Lambarde, eſq. of Greenwich, the perambulator, who ſettled it on his new-founded alms-houſe in that pariſh, called queen Elizabeth's hoſpital, with the like limitation as that which he had made in reſpect to the manor of Brenchley. By virtue of which, the leaſe of this manor has paſſed in direct ſucceſſion to Multon Lambard, eſq. of Sevenoke, in this county, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

THE MANOR OF MASCALS, antiently called *Mareſcalls*, with *the two appendant ones* of COPGROVE and CHEKESWELL, are ſituated near the northern boundary of this pariſh.

The firſt of them, as appears by antient writings, in the reign of king Edward II. was owned by the family of Colepeper; one of whom, Walter Culpeper, died poſſeſſed of it in the laſt year of that reign, holding in *gavelkind*, as appears by the inquiſition then taken, certain tenements in the pariſh of Brenchley, called Mareſcales, of the lord Hugh de Audley, as of his honor of Tunbridge, by the ſervice of paying yearly

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at his larder eight hogs and an half, value fifteen shillings, and that his sons, Thomas, Geoffry, and John, were his heirs and next of kin.

Copgrove was in possession of a family of the same name, who afterwards became likewise owners of *Chekeswell*, which in the preceding reign of Edward I. had been in the possession of the family of Hoese, of whom Henry de Hoese died possessed of it in anno 18 Edward I. leaving Henry his son and heir, who, anno 22 of that reign, was summoned to parliament among the barons of this realm. From one of this family of Copgrove, as is supposed, was descended, though some time afterwards, John Capgrove, the famous friar Eremite, of St. Augustine, S. T. P. of Oxford, and at length provincial of his order in England. He was probably born at this place, and became provincial of his order, and the most learned man of it. Humphry, duke of Gloucester was his patron, under whose protection he published those works, which shew how great his abilities were, he died at Lynn, in 1484[k]. One of them, John de Copgrove, some time about Edward the IId.'s reign, sold both these manors to John de Vane, who was likewise become owner of the manor of Marescals, or Mascals, as it was then called; his heir, Robert de Vane, paid respective aid for them all three, in the 20th year of king Edward III. as half a knight's fee, which John de Copgrave held in Brenchesley, at Chekeswell, of the earl of Gloucester.[l]

These manors continued in the name of Vane, till the latter end of king Henry VI. when one of that family alienated them to Humphry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, from whom they afterwards passed in succession to his great-grandson Edward, duke of Buckingham, who being found guilty of high treason in the reign of king Henry VIII. was beheaded in the 13th

[k] Tan. Bib. Brit. p. 152. Stev. Mon. vol. ii. p. 219.
[l] Book of Aid, anno 20 Edward III.

year

year of it, and an act paſſed for his attainder, and another ſoon afterwards for the reſtitution of his ſon Henry in blood, but not to his honors and lands.

Soon after the duke's attainder, the manors of Maſcalls and Copgrave, for I find no further mention of Chekeſwell, were granted to John Lyghe, who died poſſeſſed of them in the 15th year of that reign. After which they came into the poſſeſſion of Sir Edward Ferrers, of Badſley Clinton, in Warwickſhire, (ſon of Sir Henry, by Margaret Hextall, of Eaſt Peckham, in this county,) who died in 1535, theſe manors being then held of the king as of the honor of Warbilton, parcel of the poſſeſſions of the late duke of Buckingham attainted, by knights ſervice. His great-grandſon, Henry Ferrers, ſeems to have paſſed them away by ſale in the 16th year of queen Elizabeth's reign to Whetenhall, commonly called Whetnall, of Eaſt Peckham, and he ſold them about the beginning of king James I's reign to Ouldſworth, who not long after conveyed them to Bartue, and he in the reign of king Charles I. tranſmitted them by ſale to Mr. Charles Tucker, whoſe ſon of the ſame name owned them at the reſtoration, anno 1660. How they paſſed afterwards, I do not find; but in the beginning of this century they were in the name of Putland, one of whom, Mr. George Putland, of Tunbridge, by will deviſed them to Mr. Thomas Barton, of Sevenoke, his nephew, for life, remainder to Mr. Thomas Barton, his great-nephew, ſon of Mr. Walter Barton, of Courtlodge, in Hadlow, whoſe ſon John is the preſent owner of theſe manors.

PARROCKS is a manor, which lies at the northern extremity of this pariſh, within the hundred of Twyford, and was antiently a manor appendant to that of Weſt Malling, which was given by Gundulph, biſhop of Rocheſter, in the 4th year of William Rufus, to the benedictine nunnery founded there by him about that time.

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This manor remained part of the poſſeſſions of the abbey of Malling till the diſſolution of it in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it was, with all its revenues, ſurrendered into the king's hands, who that year granted it, with the reſt of the poſſeſſions of the abbey, in exchange for other premiſes, to Thomas Cranmer, archbiſhop of Canterbury. Theſe eſtates were again exchanged with the crown in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, where the fee of the manor of Parlock lay, till king James I. in his 21ſt year, granted it to John Rayney, eſq. which grant was confirmed by king Charles I. in his 2d year, to Sir John Rayney, bart. his eldeſt ſon, who was of Wrotham-place, in this county, who, though he had then a grant of the fee of the manor of Parrocks, yet he never gained poſſeſſion of it till about the time of the death of king Charles I. for it had been leaſed out by the abbeſs and convent, for many years to the family of Hextall, of Eaſt Peckham; one of whom, William Hextall, dying without male iſſue, his only daughter and heir Margaret, carried his intereſt in it in marriage to William Whetenhall, eſq. whoſe deſcendant, Sir Richard Whetenhall, ſold the remainder of his term in it to George Brooke, lord Cobham, who died poſſeſſed of it anno 5 and 6 Philip and Mary. His ſon, Sir William Brooke, lord Cobham, ſucceeded him in it, and in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth, procured a freſh term in this manor, and then alienated it to Sir Thomas Fane, of Badſell, whoſe grandſon, Mildmay, earl of Weſtmoreland, afterwards became poſſeſſed of it, in whoſe time the leaſe expired, about the time of the death of king Charles I. when the fee of this manor came to Sir John Rayney, as above-mentioned. Soon after which it was alienated to Boſville, in which name it continued till Henry Boſville, of Bradborne, in Sevenoke, dying in 1761 unmarried, deviſed it among the reſt of his eſtates, in tail male, to his kinſman, Sir Richard Betenſon, bart. who died *ſ. p.* in 1786,

1786, on which it came by the limitations of the ſame will, to Thomas Lane, eſq. of Sevenoke, the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor.[m]

A court baron is regularly held for it.

IT APPEARS by the eſcheat rolls, that there was an eſtate here called MOATLANDS, which was formerly part of the poſſeſſions of the eminent family of Pimpe. Reginald Pimpe died in the 16th year of Henry VI. poſſeſſed of a meſſuage in Brenchley, called *Le Moat*, with the lands and appurtenances belonging to it. Soon after which it appears to have come into a family, called, from their reſidence in this pariſh, Brenchley, one of whom was Sir William Bruchelle, or Brenchley, one of the juſtices of the common pleas, who died May 20, 1446, without iſſue, and lies buried with Joane his wife, in the nave of Canterbury cathedral. They bore for their arms, *A croſs patent engrailed*, as may be ſeen carved on the roof of the cloyſters of that cathedral.

John Brenchley, eſq. was owner of it in Henry VI.'s reign, and left an only daughter and heir Margaret, who, in the 21ſt year of it, carried it in marriage to William More, eſq. of More-court, in Ivechurch, who was ſucceeded in it by his ſon, Walter More, eſq. of Benenden, who died in the 19th year of Henry VII. leaving two ſons, Thomas, of Benenden; and William, of Bettenham, in Cranbrooke; between whom this eſtate became divided, the line of ſeparation croſſing the Mote and the foundations of the old manſion of it. *That part of Moatlands* to which the manorial rights were annexed, was allotted to the former, whoſe ſon John, about the reign of queen Mary, alienated Moatlands to Thomas Robert, alias Roberts, gent. who lies buried, with his three wives, Elizabeth, Joane, and Agnes, in this church; whoſe deſcendants reſided here till George Roberts, leaving a ſon Walter, and a

[m] See Bradborne, in Sevenoke, vol. iii. p. 85.

daughter

daughter Margaret, married to Walter Roberts, ſon and heir of Sir Thomas Roberts, bart. of Glaſſenbury, ſhe on the death of her brother without ſurviving iſſue, entitled her huſband to this eſtate; and from him this eſtate deſcended in direct ſucceſſion to Sir Walter Roberts, bart. of Glaſſenbury, who died in 1745, leaving one only daughter and ſurviving heir Jane, who carried this eſtate in marriage to George, duke of St. Albans, who ſurvived her, and afterwards poſſeſſed a life eſtate in it. He died in 1786, on which it devolved by the dutcheſs's will, who had the power of diſpoſing of the fee of it to her father's heir male, of the family of Roberts, of Ireland, of whom John Roberts, eſq. is the preſent owner of it.

The other part of Moatlands ſeems to have been alienated from the deſcendants of William More, of Bettenham, about the reign of queen Elizabeth, to George Payne, of London, by whoſe heirs it was ſold in 1698, with Broadoak in this pariſh, as has been already mentioned before, to John Hooker, eſq. the preſent owner of it.

CATT'S-PLACE, with the manor belonging to it, called *Catlets*, alias *Salmon*, is likewiſe ſituated in this pariſh, about a mile northward from Brenchley town, but within the hundred of Twyford, being held of the manor of Yalding. The manſion of it was antiently the reſidence of Hugh de Catt, who implanted his name on it; his deſcendants continued in the poſſeſſion of it till the reign of king Henry VI. when it was paſſed away to Tilden, of Marden, one of whoſe deſcendants, after the death of king Charles I. alienated it to Baſſage, in which name it continued till William and James Baſſage ſold it to James Turvin, eſq. of Hertfordſhire, whoſe ſon of the ſame name leaving two daughters his coheirs, one of whom marrying Robert Buttery, eſq. he is at this time entitled to the poſſeſſion of it.

STOCKSHILL AND STUDMORE are two manors here which had antiently owners who aſſumed their ſurnames from them, and continued thus diſtinguiſhed till the time of king Henry VI. and then the latter was likewiſe by purchaſe come into the family of Stock. In the reign of king Henry VIII. both theſe manors were in the poſſeſſion of Paul Sydnor, who was owner of other principal eſtates in this pariſh, and his ſon, William Sydnor, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, conveyed them by ſale to Robert Berney, and he, about the year 1584, alienated them to Robert Byng, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of Stockſhill and Stodmerhill manors, in Brenchley and Yalding, in 1595, as appears by the inquiſition then taken; after which they continued in his deſcendants to his great-grandſon John Byng, eſq. who ſoon after the reſtoration alienated both theſe manors. Since which, after ſeveral intermediate owners, they paſſed into the name of Monckton, in which they ſtill continue, Mr. John Monckton being the preſent proprietor of them.

CHARITIES.

RICHARD BISHOP gave by will to the poor of this pariſh, the ſum of 10l. the intereſt of it to be diſtributed yearly among five poor and impotent pariſhioners, veſted in Mr. Solomon Norris, and now of the annual amount of 10s.

JOHN DOWNER, late of Brenchley, gave by will in 1578, the ſum of 2l. per annum, to be paid out of certain lands in this pariſh, called Puckſted fields, now veſted in Mr. Edward Monckton.

GEORGE PAIN, ESQ. formerly of Broadoak, in 1682 gave by will to the poor of this pariſh the ſum of 10l. per annum, to be diſtributed in ſuch manner as the miniſter, churchwardens, and ſubſtantial inhabitants ſhould think fit, to be paid out of that eſtate.

CAPTAIN STEPHEN WOODGATE, gave by will in 1672, 1l. 10s. per annum, to be paid out of a meſſuage and orchard near Broadoak, in this pariſh, veſted in John Hooker, eſq.

JOHN PORTER, late of Brenchley, gave by deed in 1763, 3l. per annum, to be paid out of lands in this pariſh, to be applied towards the teaching of two or more poor children to read, if a ſchool here, and if no ſchool, then 1s. to be given weekly in bread, and 1s. a piece on St. Thomas's day to ſix

poor

poor perſons, and the other 2s. to be laid out in wine for the truſtees, by whom the poor and children ſhould be nominated, veſted in John Botten, and now of the above annual amount.

The poor who receive conſtant relief yearly are in number about eighty, thoſe caſually 180.

BRENCHLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter and *deanry* of Malling.

The church is dedicated to All Saints. In it there are monuments and inſcriptions for the families of Roberts and Courthope, and an inſcription for Elizabeth, wife of George Fane, eſq. of Tudeley, in 1566.

This church ſeems antiently to have been eſteemed but as a chapel to the adjoining pariſh church of Yalding; Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, gave that church, with this chapel, and all its appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms, to the priory of Tunbridge, lately founded by him there.

After which I find it no longer mentioned as a chapel, but as an independent parochial church. Biſhop Henry de Sandford, who came to the ſee of Rocheſter in 1227, confirmed the church of Brenchley to the prior and canons before mentioned, to be poſſeſſed by them as an appropriation for ever; ſaving, a perpetual vicarage for a prieſt, to be preſented to it by them, who ſhould for the time being perſonally ſerve in it; and that he ſhould, in the name of a perpetual vicarage, have the whole altarage, and all ſmall tithes, obventions of the altar, and tithes of curtilages, and all the tithes of corn and pulſe, and hay of *Weſtroterindenne*, (now called *Witherenden*) which was of the fee of the abbeſs of Malling, and lay between the way which leads from Yalding towards Condingebery and the land of Hamon de la Downe, and extended itſelf in length from Badeſhulle to Mateſeld; and that he ſhould have, in the name of a glebe, four acres of land, which lay adjoining to the meſſuage of Simon de Wahull, towards the north, between the road which

leads to the houſe of the parſon of Brenchley and the houſe of Fulk; and that he ſhould have yearly from the barns of the prior and canons of Brencheſle, two ſeams of oats, and two ſeams of *crowe* for his palfry, paying yearly to the prior and canons from the vicarage, two wax tapers of four pounds each; but that the vicar ſhould ſuſtain all epiſcopal burthens, and all others due and accuſtomed. As to the two ſeams of crowe as above-mentioned, in the Latin deed it is, *duas Summas de Crowe*, the meaning of which, I own, I do not underſtand, but think it is moſt probably a miſtake of the tranſcriber. At preſent the payment is made to the vicar in two ſeams of oats.

In which ſtate this rectory, with the advowſon of the vicarage, and THE MANOR OF BARNES likewiſe *appendant* to the rectory of Brenchley, remained till the diſſolution of the priory of Tunbridge in the reign of king Henry VIII. who in the 17th year of it, granted that priory, with all its poſſeſſions, among which was this church and the manor of Barnes, with the land and appurtenances belonging to them, to cardinal Wolſey, for the better endowment of his college, commonly called Cardinal's college, in Oxford.* But that great prelate being caſt in *a præmunire*, all the eſtates of the above-mentioned college, which had not been firmly ſettled on it, were forfeited, and came into the king's hands, where this rectory, manor, and advowſon remained, till the 31ſt year of that reign, when the king granted them to Paul Sydnor, gent. to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice. His ſon, William Sydnor, eſq. ſucceeded to theſe premiſes in the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, and not long afterwards alienated them to William Waller, eſq. of Groombridge, who married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Walter Hendley, by whom he had three ſons and three daugh-

* Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 173. Strype's Eccleſ. Memoirs, vol. i. Append. No. 23.

ters.

ters. She ſurvived him, and appears to have poſſeſſed theſe premiſes in Brenchley, and afterwards married George Fane, eſq. of Badſell.

Her eldeſt ſon, by her firſt huſband Sir Walter Waller, ſucceeded her here, and his ſon Sir Thomas Waller, of Groombridge, alienated the manor of Barnes, and the rectory of Brenchley, with the advowſon of the vicarage, to John Courthope, eſq. afterwards of Brenchley, youngeſt brother of Sir George Courthope, of Whileigh, in Suſſex, who died poſſeſſed of them in 1649, in whoſe family they have continued down to George Courthope, eſq. now of Uckfield, in Suſſex, the preſent owner of them.

This family is ſuppoſed by ſome to have been originally ſeated at Courthope-ſtreet, commonly written *Court-at-ſtreet*, near Limne, in this county. One branch of them ſettled at Goddards green, in Cranbrook, whence deſcended thoſe of Danny, in Suſſex, and of Horſemonden, in this county, both now extinct. Another branch ſettled at Stodmarſh, near Canterbury, now likewiſe extinct; and another at Whileigh, in Suſſex, the only one now remaining of it, who now reſide at Uckfield, in Suſſex; of which branch is George Courthope, eſq. the preſent poſſeſſor of this rectory, whoſe father and grandfather, both of the name of George, intermarried into the family of Campion, of Danny, in Suſſex. The preſent Mr. George Courthope, (whoſe younger brother Henry was vicar of this pariſh, and died unmarried), married Francis Barbara, daughter of William Campion, eſq. of Danny, and has two ſons, George; and William now vicar of this pariſh, and a daughter Frances. They bear for their arms, *Argent, a feſs between three eſtoils azure.*

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 12l. 18s. 9d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 5s. 10½d.

In 1608 there were 664 communicants.

CHURCH OF BRENCHLEY.

PATRONS, &c. Or by whom preſented..	VICARS.
	John Ferral, in 1581.[p]
	Edrus Henſhall, about 1630.[q]
	John Monkton, obt. 1709.
	Joſiah Strother, A. M. inſtit. May 4, 1709, obt. March 8, 1744.
George Courthope, eſq.	*William Courthope*, obt. 1773.
	Henry Courthope, A. M. inſtit. April 1773, the preſent vicar.

p A noted ſtory of him is related in Scott's Diſcourſe on Witchcraft, p. 5.

q He was afterwards driven out by the rebels of thoſe times.

LAMBERHURST.

THE next pariſh ſouthward from Brenchley is Lamberhurſt, which probably takes its name from the ſoft clay on which it is ſituated, and the woods with which it ſo plentifully abounds. *Lam*, in the Saxon language ſignifying a ſoft loam or clay, and *hurſt* a wood; which name of *Lamhurſt* by the vulgar corruption of it, and the ſucceſſion of time, has been long changed into its preſent one of Lamberhurſt.

THE STREAM which riſes in Waterdown foreſt, in Suſſex, being one of the principal heads of the Medway, runs through this pariſh, and ſeparates this county from that of Suſſex, in which the larger part of this pariſh lies. That part on the northern ſide of the ſtream, in this county, is about two miles acroſs in extent, the ſurface of it is a continued hill and dale, the ſoil near the village is a ſand, but the moſt part of it is a very ſtiff clay, eſpecially in the large tracts of coppice wood, which extend over by far the greateſt part of the pariſh; in theſe and the adjoining woods there are ſeveral furnaces for melting and manufacturing the iron ore, with which

which they abound, the only one of them in that part of this pariſh, within this county, is called Lamberhurſt, alias Glouceſter furnace, being named in honor of the duke of Glouceſter, queen Anne's ſon, who in the year 1698 viſited it from Tunbridge-wells. The iron rails round St. Paul's church-yard, in London, were caſt at this furnace. They compoſe the moſt magnificent baluſtrade perhaps in the univerſe, being of the height of five feet and ſix inches, in which there are at intervals ſeven iron gates of beautiful workmanſhip, which, together with the rails, weigh upwards of two hundred tons; the whole of which amounted to the ſum of 11,000l. and upwards.

Theſe woods are moſtly oak coppice, ſometimes, though but rarely, intermixed with hazel, and interſperſed with oak trees, which are much fewer in them than formerly, owing to the great increaſe of the price of timber, and the conſumption made of them for theſe furnaces.

There are plenty of little ſprings among them, of a browner colour than is common to ordinary waters, which leave in their paſſage tinctures of ruſt. The iron ore is found in great abundance in moſt parts of theſe woods, but different in colour, weight, and goodneſs. That which is not ſo fit for common uſe, on account of its being ſhort and brittle when melted, is mingled in due quantity with cinder, being the refuſe of the ore after the metal has been extracted from it, which gives it that temper of toughneſs as makes it fit for uſe. Great quantities of cannon, as well for the uſe of government as the merchants, are caſt at theſe furnaces, beſides backs for ſtoves, and ſuch like, as well as bars from the beſt ſort of the ore, after having been worked in the forges for that purpoſe.

The village, or town of Lamberhurſt, as it is ſometimes called, is ſituated about forty miles diſtance from London, on each ſide of the ſtream above-mentioned, over which there is a bridge of three arches, and ſtands

partly in Kent, and partly in Suſſex. On the weſtern ſide of the ſtreet, within this county, there is a large well-timbered houſe, which from its appearance ſeems to have long been a gentleman's houſe, it was for ſeveral generations in the poſſeſſion of the family of Thomas; one of them, Alexander Thomas, eſq. reſided here, and died poſſeſſed of it in 1657, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Richard Thomas, who about the year 1740 ſold it to Mr. Bridger, of Suſſex, and he again alienated it to Mr. John Foſter, in which name it ſtill continues. The two principal roads, the one from London through Tunbridge, and the other from Maidſtone through Yalding, having joined juſt above the village, leads through it into Suſſex. At a ſmall diſtance weſtward from the ſpot where theſe roads meet is the antient manſion of the parſonage, and at a like diſtance on the oppoſite ſide, the Court-lodge, ſituated with the church near it on the riſe of a hill.

About a mile weſtward, cloſe to the ſouthern ſide of the ſtream within Suſſex, are the ruins, and the ſeat of Beyham, great part of which are in the pariſh of Fant, and on the other ſide of it within Kent, though at a little further diſtance, the eſtate of Hoadley, within that part of this pariſh called *Linderidge quarter*, in the upper part of which, near the thirty-ſeventh mile-ſtone, on the Tunbridge road, is an eſtate, formerly called from the antient poſſeſſors of it, Dunks, but now *Old Farm*. It was for ſome generations afterwards owned by a branch of the Hendleys, of Cranbrooke, of theſe, Thomas Hendley died poſſeſſed of it in 1716, leaving ſeveral ſons, of whom Peter and Alexander lived at Goudhurſt, and were clothiers there a few years ago; Walter, an intermediate ſon, became on his father's death poſſeſſed of this eſtate, and afterwards ſold it to Pattenden, who alienated it to Spence, as he did ſoon afterwards to Gibbs Crawford, eſq. of Eaſt Grinſted, the preſent owner of it.

The

The part of this parish within Sussex is separated from this county and the parish of Goudhurst by a stream, called the Bewle, across which, over a bridge of the same name, the high road from Lamberhurst passes towards Flimwell, Hawkhurst, and towards Rye in Sussex. About half a mile below Bewle bridge, near the east bank of the stream, is the mansion of Scotney, situated in a deep vale, and so surrounded with woods, as to give it a most gloomy and recluse appearance; it is a handsome stone building, and appears to be only the half of what was first intended to be built. It was moated round, and had, till the late Mr. Darell pulled them down, a strong stone gate-way, with towers, &c. seemingly intended to guard the approach to it. The river, which here divides the two counties, once ran through the centre of the ground plat, on which the house stands; about a mile below Scotney it joins the Beyham stream, with which it flows on to Yalding, where it meets the main stream of the Medway.

There is in this parish a family of the name of Wimshurst, in old writings spelt Wilmshurst, formerly of considerable property in it, but they have lately alienated it all.

A fair is held in this parish on Old Lady-day yearly, for cattle, &c. the profits of which belong to the owners of the parsonage, and there is another fair held in the village yearly on the 21st of May.

THIS PARISH was antiently part of the possessions of the eminent family of Crevequer, and was a limb of their barony of Leeds in this county; one part of it was held of them by the family of Lenham; one of whom, Nicholas de Lenham, obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands here in the reign of king Henry III. they were succeeded by the Chidcrofts, who resided here for some generations, and bore for their arms the same coat as that of the family of Colepeper, viz. *a bend engrailed*. This was a frequent custom at that time, many using the coat of their superior lord, of whom

whom they held in fee, or in whoſe ſervice they were, and others procured a grant from them of it, but hardly any were borne without ſome difference to diſtinguiſh one from the other. Thus as the earl of Cheſter bore *garbs* or *wheatſheaves*, many gentlemen of that county bore *wheatſheaves* likewiſe. The old earls of Warwick bore *Chequy, or and azure, a chevron ermine*, from which many of that county bore *ermine and chequy*. In Leiceſterſhire, many bore *cinquefoils*, in imitation of the antient earls of that county; and in other counties the ſame. But to return to this county; the Guiſes bore the arms of Hugo de Burgh, earl of Kent, *with a canton for difference*. The Hardres's bore the *chevron* of the family of Clare, with the addition of the *lion rampant debruiſed*. The Everings, the Hougham's, the Criols, aud others, did the ſame, with their reſpective differences. The Shurlands, Rokeſleys, and Kirkbys bore the *ſix lions rampant* uſed by Leyborne, of Leyborne. The Peckhams, Parrocks, and St. Nicholas's bore the arms of the Says, *quarterly, or and gules*, but placed it, for difference, *in chief*. Nor was this family of Chidcroft the only one in this county, which bore the arms of Colepeper; for the Haldens, of Halden, and a branch of the Malmains, did the like. Tutſham, of Tutſham, bore the like arms to thoſe of Eaſtangrave, of Eaſtangrave, in Eatonbridge; Brenley, of Brenley, in Boughton, to thoſe of Ratling, of Ratling, in Nonington; Perforer, of Eaſtling to thoſe of Lenham, of Lenham; and laſtly, Watringbury, of Watringbury, to thoſe of Savage, of Bobbing. There are many inſtances of the grants of the coat armour from a lord to his inferior, among others, Humphry, earl of Stafford, in the reign of king Henry VI. granted to Robert Whitgrave the bearing of the *chevron gules*, in ſuch manner as is expreſſed in the grant.[r]

[r] See Philipott, p. 210. Camden's Remains, p. 209 et ſeq.

But

But to return; one of this family, Thomas de Chidcroft, died poſſeſſed of this eſtate in the 1ſt year of king Edward III. *The other part*, in which the manor was included, was held of the Crevequers, as half a knight's fee, in the reign of king John, by Nicholas de Kenith, *nomine dotis*, who gave it to the abbot and convent of Robertſbridge, in Suſſex.

Hamo de Crevequer, grandſon of Robert, confirmed this gift of the manor of Lambhurſt, &c. for which the abbot had paid him thirty-five marcs of ſilver, of the goods of his church. Soon after the abbot's coming into poſſeſſion of this manor, there aroſe great diſputes between him and the archbiſhop concerning it, which were finally ſettled anno 1266, 51 king Henry III.

In the 21ſt year of king Edward I. upon a *quo warranto*, the abbot and convent claimed *view of frankpledge*, and other liberties, to their manor here, againſt the king, who laid claim to it. But the abbot producing the king's charter, his claim was allowed before J. de Berewicke and others, juſtices itinerant,[1] and in the 8th year of king Edward II. the archbiſhop had a grant for a market and fair in this pariſh.

In which ſituation this manor continued till the ſuppreſſion of the abbey of Robertſbridge, in the reign of king Henry VIII. when the abbey, together with all its poſſeſſions, (this manor being then deviſed by the abbot and convent at the yearly rent of fourteen pounds) came into the king's hands, and was confirmed to him and his heirs, by the general words of the act, paſſed in the 31ſt of that reign for this purpoſe.

After which, the king, by ſeveral indentures and letters patent, in his 30th, 32d, and 33d years granted the abbey, with this manor and the reſt of its poſſeſſions, to Sir William Sydney and Anne his wife, and their heirs male, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice,

[1] Tanner, p. 559. Harris's Hiſtory of Kent, p. 173.

all

all which he ſurrendered up. In conſideration of which, and a ſum of money paid upon a new agreement, the king, in his 33d year, ſold to Sir William Sydney and his heirs, the manor of Lamberhurſt, together with all lands and poſſeſſions belonging to the monaſtery in Lamberhurſt, and elſewhere, the ſcite of the late abbey, and all other poſſeſſions belonging to it, to hold by the ſuit of one whole knight's fee, and the annual rent of 26l. 12s. 4d. His grandſon, Sir Robert Sidney, who was created earl of Leiceſter, obtained new letters patent of this manor, anno 5 James I. to hold it of the king as of his manor of Eaſt Greenwich, in *free ſocage tenure*, by fealty only in lieu of all other rents and ſervices,[t] and then alienated it to John Porter, eſq. who rebuilt the courtlodge, where he afterwards reſided. He was ſon of Richard Porter, of Begeham, in this pariſh, deſcended from Wm. Porter, of Markham, in Nottinghamſhire, of whoſe ſons, John, the eldeſt ſurviving, ſucceeded his father at Markham, and was anceſtor of the branch ſettled at Belton, in Lincolnſhire; Stephen was anceſtor of thoſe of Begeham and Lamberhurſt, of whom was John Porter, the purchaſer of this manor, and Robert was dean of Lincoln. They bore for their arms, *Sable, three bells argent, a canton ermine.* John Porter, eſq. above-mentioned, in the 3d year of king Charles I. obtained a confirmation of *free-warren* made to Nicholas de Lenham as above-mentioned, within all the demeſne lands of this manor, not being within the bounds of the king's foreſts. His two grandſons, John and Richard, dying *ſ. p.* his daughter Elizabeth, married Sir John Hanby, of Lincolnſhire, became their heir, and he in her right became poſſeſſed of this manor, and died without male iſſue, leaving an only daughter Elizabeth, who carried it in marriage to John Chaplin, eſq. of the ſame county,

[t] Augtn. off Deeds of Purchaſe and Exchange, box A. 46, C. 7-7. Rot. Eſch. ejus an.

whoſe

whoſe grandſon, John Chaplin, eſq. left three daughters his coheirs, of whom Elizabeth, married to Edward Ayſcoughe, eſq. entitled her huſband to the poſſeſſion of it, and then joining with him alienated it to William Morland, eſq. who reſided at the court-lodge. He was deſcended from anceſtors ſeated at Morland, in Weſtmoreland, and bore for his arms, *Azure, a griffin rampant, or.* He married Ellen, daughter of Sir Thomas Johnſon, of Liverpool, by whom he had Thomas Morland, eſq. of the court-lodge, which he much improved, and dying in 1784, was brought hither and buried in this church. By Anne, daughter and coheir of William Matſon, eſq. of Lancaſhire, he left ſeveral children, of whom the eldeſt ſon, William Alexander Morland, eſq. ſucceeded him in this manor, and is the preſent owner of it.

There is a court leet and court baron held regularly for this manor.

HODLEIGH is a reputed manor, ſituated at the weſtern part of this pariſh, which antiently belonged to the college of St Peter, at Lingfield, in Surry, which ſeems to have been ſuppreſſed in the reign of king Henry VIII. for that king in his 38th year, granted this manor among other premiſes belonging to the college, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice, to Thomas Cawarden, or Cardan, as he was ſometimes called for ſhortneſs,* one of whoſe deſcendants, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, paſſed it away by ſale to Edward Filmer, eſq. afterwards knighted by that queen, and of Eaſt Sutton, in this county, and from him this manor at length deſcended down to Sir John Filmer, bart. of Eaſt Sutton, who died *ſ. p.* in 1797, being then the poſſeſſor of it.

IN THAT PART of this pariſh which lies in the county of Suſſex, there are *two capital places*, which though not ſtrictly within the deſcription of this county,

* Tan. Mon. p. 545. Philipott, p. 209.

muſt

muſt not be omitted in it. The firſt of them is Begeham, uſually called *Bayham abbey*, ſituated about three quarters of a mile diſtant ſouth-weſtward from Hodleigh, and cloſe on the oppoſite ſide of the ſtream which ſeparates the two counties. It was founded at a place here called Beaulieu, about the year 1200, by Robert, nephew of Michael de Turnham, for monks of the *Præmonſtratenſian* order; ſome of whom he removed from Brockley, in Deptford, hither for that purpoſe.

Theſe religious had been firſt ſettled at Ottham, in Suſſex, by Ralph de Dene; but finding that place inconvenient for the purpoſe, they began an eſtabliſhment at Brockley, where they remained a very ſmall time, before they quitted both thoſe places, and removed hither, with the conſent of Ella de Sackvile, the daughter of their founder Ralph de Dene, and of Robert de Turnham above-mentioned. For the above purpoſe Robert de Turnham had granted with the aſſent of Richard, earl of Clare, his lord, to theſe canons all his land of Begeham, with its appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms, free from all ſervice and ſecular exaction, to build an abbey here in honor of St. Mary.*

Pope Gregory IX. anno 1266, exempted them *de decimis novalium*, and likewiſe from the mills they had built anew, and of the hay of all their lands. In the 15th year of king Edward I. the temporalities of the abbot in Canterbury dioceſe, amounted to 21l. 6s. 8d. per annum; in which year, the abbot being ſummoned on a *quo warranto*, to ſhew cauſe why he claimed pleas of the crown, and free-warren, a market, fair, gallows, and waif in Begeham, &c. anſwered, that he had not, nor claimed to have any of thoſe liberties: but that he had view of frank-pledge, and by reaſon of that aſſize of bread and ale, &c. and the jury found for the abbot, for that he and his predeceſſors had always uſed the ſame beyond memory.

* Chartulary of Begeham abbey, Surrenden-lib. cart. 168.

King

King Edward III. in his 2d year, granted to the abbot and convent *free warren* in their demeſne lands in the pariſhes of Lamberhurſt, in Kent, and in Begeham, in Suſſex, among others.

This abbey continued much in the ſame ſtate till the reign of king Henry VIII. when cardinal Wolſey, being deſirous of founding two colleges, one at Ipſwich, and the other at Oxford; obtained in 1524 the pope's bull for ſuppreſſing, with the king's leave, as many ſmall monaſteries as were needful to raiſe a revenue, not exceeding three thouſand ducats per annum, upon which the king having granted a commiſſion for this purpoſe, this monaſtery was ſuppreſſed, with ſeventeen other ſmall ones in different counties; when it appears that its ſpiritualities were valued at 27l. 6s. 8d. its temporalities, at 125l. 2s. 8½d. and the whole at 152l. 9s. 4½d. per annum.

Richard Bexley was the laſt abbot of it, at which time there were ten religious in this monaſtery.[x]

From their deſcent from the founder of this abbey, as well as from their benefactions to it, the family of Sackvile were reputed likewiſe founders of it: two of them are recorded to have been buried in the church of this abbey, Sir Thomas, ſon of Sir Andrew Sackville, by Joane Burgeſe, his ſecond wife, who was ſheriff of Suſſex and Surry anno 8 king Henry IV. and in the chapel of the Virgin Mary, in this church, Richard Sackvile, eſq. who died anno 1524. There is a regiſter of this abbey in the Cottonian library in the Britiſh muſeum, marked Otho A II.

After the ſuppreſſion of this abbey, the king by his letters patent, in his 17th year, granted the ſeveral diſſolved monaſteries of Begeham, Leſnes, Tunbridge, and Calcote, together with all their lands, manors and poſſeſſions, to cardinal Wolſey, for the better endowment of his college above-mentioned in Ox-

[x] Willis's Mitred Abbeys, vol. ii. p. 96, 327.

ford;

ford; which letters were again confirmed by others, that year. But four years afterwards, on the Cardinal's being caſt in a *præmunire*, all the eſtates of the college, which had not been firmly ſettled on it, were forfeited to the king, in whoſe hands the manor of Begeham, together with the ſcite of the abbey, ſeems to have remained till queen Elizabeth made a grant of it to Anthony Brown, viſcount Montague, who, though a ſtrict Romaniſt, was held in great eſteem by that princeſs, as a perſon of experienced loyalty, who was attached to that religion from principles, and not from faction. He died in 1593, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Anthony, viſcount Montague, by his firſt wife Jane, daughter of Robert Ratcliffe, earl of Suſſex, who not long afterwards alienated this manor and eſtate to Benedict Barnham, alderman of London, ſheriff of that city in 1592, who died in 1598, leaving four daughters his coheirs; of whom Alice, the ſecond daughter, inherited this manor and the ſcite of the abbey of Begeham, after the death of her firſt huſband, Sir Francis Bacon, lord Verulam, viſcount St. Albans, and lord chancellor, by whom ſhe had no iſſue, ſhe remarried with Walter Doble, gent. of the county of Suſſex, who in her right became poſſeſſed of this eſtate, in whoſe family it remained at the reſtoration of king Charles II. anno 1660; after which it paſſed into the name of Brown, in which it remained in the 12th year of queen Anne, when an act paſſed to enable Ambroſe Brown, eſq. and others, to make ſale of this manor; in conſequence of which it was ſold to John Pratt, eſq. of Wilderneſs, ſerjeant-at-law, and afterwards chief juſtice of the king's bench. On whoſe death in 1725, John Pratt, eſq of Wilderneſs, his eldeſt ſurviving ſon by his firſt wife, ſucceeded him in this manor, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1770, as did his ſon John Pratt, eſq. firſt of Wilderneſs, but afterwards of Sevenoke, where he died in 1797, and by his will gave this eſtate to his half brother Thomas Pratt, eſq. (the elder brother

ther of the late Charles, earl Camden) and he is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor, with the ſcite of the abbey and the lands belonging to it.

There are great remains of the ruins of this abbey; within the walls of the church, on which the roof was remaining till lord chief juſtice Pratt had it taken off, for the ſake of the materials, there are ſeveral flat grave ſtones, one of which has a croſier on it; and three tombs or coffins of ſtone, one of which is decorated with the ſculpture of *a croſs pomel pierced*, on the top of it. The inſide of the church is laid out as a pleaſure-garden, with flowers and gravel walks, for the uſe of the adjoining ſeat, which was built ſome years ago by the late proprietor, in the gothic ſtile, and in which he frequently reſided.

There are two views of the ruins of this abbey, one publiſhed by Buck in 1737, and the other by Groſe, in his Antiquities of England and Wales, drawn in 1760.

Scotney is the other manor in this pariſh, within the county of Suſſex likewiſe; the manſion of it is ſituated cloſe on the weſtern ſide of the ſtream, called *the Bewle*, which, as is reputed here, divides the two counties. It was ſo called from a family, which were proprietors of it in very early times, as they were of another ſeat of the ſame name at Lid; one of whom, Walter de Scoteni, held it in the reign of Henry III. and was a perſon of no ſmall account, for he held fourteen knights fees and a half of Alice, counteſs of Ewe, in Suſſex; but being found guilty of poiſoning Richard, earl of Glouceſter, and his brother, William de Clare, he was drawn through Wincheſter to the gallows, and hanged. Notwithſtanding which this eſtate ſeems to have continued in the ſame name and family till about the middle of the reign of king Edward III. when it paſſed into the poſſeſſion of the family of Aſhburnham, of Aſhburnham, in Suſſex; one of whom, Roger Aſhburnham, was a conſervator of the peace in the 1ſt year of king Richard II. and reſided at this manſion,

which was then caſtellated. His ſucceſſor alienated it in the beginning of king Henry V's reign, to Henry Chicheley, archbiſhop of Canterbury, who appears to have reſided here at times, one of his mandates being dated from Scoteneye, in 1418. The archbiſhop ſettled this manor on Florence, his niece, widow of Sir William Peche, and one of the daughters of William Chicheley, his youngeſt brother, on her marriage with John Darell, eſq. third ſon of William Darell, of Seſay, in Yorkſhire, whoſe ſecond wife ſhe was, from whoſe firſt wife Joane, daughter and heir of Valentine Barrett, of Pery-court, deſcended the Darells, of Calehill. He died in 1478, and was ſucceeded in this eſtate by his only ſon by her, Thomas Darell, eſq. of Scotney, whoſe only ſon Henry, and grandſon Thomas, were both likewiſe of Scotney, the latter was twice married. Thomas, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him here, and Stephen, his ſecond ſon, was anceſtor of the Darells, of Pageham, Fullſmere, Hampden, and of Middleſex; and Stephen, his third ſon, was of Spelmonden, and ended in two ſurviving daughters, who became his coheirs.

In the deſcendants of Thomas Darell, the eldeſt ſon, who ſucceeded his father at Scotney, and whoſe lands were *diſgavelled* by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. this eſtate continued down to his great grandſon, Arthur Darell, eſq. of Scotney, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1720 unmarried; on which this eſtate came by an old family ſettlement to the ſecond brother of the branch of this family ſettled at Calehill, in this county, and was accordingly claimed by George, the ſecond ſon of John Darell, eſq. of Calehill, by Olivia his wife, daughter of Philip, viſcount Strangford, and next brother to Philip Darell, eſq. of that place.

He took poſſeſſion of it, though not without ſome ſuits at law, inſtituted by the three ſiſters and heirs-at-law of Arthur above-mentioned, in which, however,

ever, he at laſt prevailed, and afterward reſided here. He was ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſon and heir, John Darell, eſq. who reſided at Scotney, and in 1774 conveyed this manor and ſeat, with the manor of Chingley and other lands adjoining in the pariſh of Goudhurſt, to Mr. John Richards, of Robertſbridge, who in 1779 again paſſed away theſe manors, the manſion of Scotney, and the farm adjoining called Little Scotney, to Edward Huſſey, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of Thomas Huſſey, eſq. of Burwaſh, in Suſſex, and afterwards of Aſhford, in this county, by Anne his wife, daughter of Maurice Berkeley, eſq. of London, by whom he had Edward above-mentioned, John, and William, both clerks, and five daughters, of whom Frances was married to Sandiford Streatfeild, merchant; Philadelphia, to Mr. T. Rutton, of London, ſon of the late Iſaac Rutton, of Aſhford, M. D.

Edward Huſſey, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, and purchaſer of theſe eſtates, married Elizabeth-Sarah, ſince deceaſed, only daughter and heir of Robert Bridge, eſq. of Bocking, in Eſſex, by whom he has ſeveral children. He reſides at Scotney, and is the preſent owner of theſe eſtates.

CHARITIES.

LADY HANBY gave by will in 1712, 6l. per annum, for teaching poor children in this pariſh to read Engliſh, and charged the ſame upon the quitrents of Lamberhurſt manor.

MR. WOODGATE gave by will 40s. per annum, to be diſtributed yearly to forty of the pooreſt people of this pariſh, not receiving alms, now veſted in Ruſſell Hickmott.

JOHN ALLEN, of Pullens, in Horſemonden, who was buried in this pariſh in 1751, left 10s. yearly, for a ſermon on charity, on St. Thomas's day, and 25s. to twenty poor perſons annually on that day, now veſted in William Hook.

The poor conſtantly relieved here are about forty yearly; thoſe caſually about eighteen.

LAMBERHURST is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church, which has a ſpire ſteeple, ſtands on a hill at a ſmall diſtance from the court-lodge. It is dedicated to St. Mary. In the porch of it lies the body of one Lindridge, who was born anno 1506, and lived in an houſe adjacent. He made an handſome ſtone cauſeway here, which from him was called *Lindridge cauſeway*.[1]

John, biſhop of Rocheſter, in 1461, changed the feaſt of the dedication of this church from the feaſt of St. Michael, on account of the floods which frequently happened here about that time of the year, and hindered its being celebrated with due ſolemnity, and tranſferred it to the Wedneſday next following *the feaſt of the ſacred relics*; to be held yearly on that day.

Robert de Crevequer, the founder of Leeds abbey, about the year 1137, gave to the canons there, *in free and perpetual alms*, all the churches on his eſtates, with the advowſons of them, and among them this of Lamberhurſt, with two acres of land in this pariſh.[2]

Lambert de Scotene confirmed to the church of Leeds whatever his anceſtors had granted to it, viz. all the eccleſiaſtical dues of his tenants, and lands of Curthope, and the oblations and legacies of the vaſſals of his lordſhip.

Archbiſhop Theobald confirmed this church to the priory, together with all the tithes, both great and ſmall, of Curthope and Ewehurſt, as did archbiſhop Hubert, by his letters of *inſpeximus*.

John, biſhop of Rocheſter, at the time of the gift of this church to the priory of Leeds, appropriated the ſame to it; notwithſtanding which, the canons do not ſeem to have gained poſſeſſion of it till about ten years afterwards. About which time, by the

[1] Harris Hiſtory of Kent, p. 172.

[2] Regiſt. of Leeds abbey, f. 3. See the confirmations of it in Reg. Roff. p. 209, 210.

mandate

mandate of Richard, archbiſhop of Canterbury, an inquiſition was taken, by which it was found, that all thoſe the archbiſhop's tenants, inhabiting the diſtrict of Curthope and Ewehurſt received all eccleſiaſtical rights in the church of Lamberhurſt, and paid all their tithes beyond the memory of man to that church, and that their anceſtors lay buried there; which was atteſted by Walter, biſhop of Rocheſter; upon which the archbiſhop confirmed the ſame to it.

The vicarage of this church does not ſeem to have been endowed till the time of biſhop John Lowe, about the year 1448, in whoſe regiſter the particulars of this endowment may be ſeen.

After which the appropriation, as well as the advowſon of this church, continued part of the poſſeſſions of the priory till the diſſolution of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was, with all its revenues, ſurrendered into the king's hands; after which, the king by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, ſettled the appropriation and advowſon of the vicarage of this church on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, where they both remain at this time.

In 1719 the leſſee of this parſonage was William Dewe, eſq. who reſided in it. He was ſon of William Dewe, gent. one of the ſix clerks in the Prerogative-office, in London, and bore for his arms, *Gules, a chevron argent, between nine bezants.* After which the intereſt in it deſcended down at length to his grandſon Butler Dewe, eſq. who dying in 1762, without iſſue, it came to his ſiſters; Elizabeth Wilſon, widow; Amphillis Whitfield, widow; Mary, Anne, and Catherine Dewe, who are the preſent leſſees of this parſonage.

The advowſon of the vicarage is reſerved to the uſe of the dean and chapter, who preſent to it.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books, at 12l. 10s. 5d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 5s. 0½d.

In 1447, it appeared, on the preſentation of William Blackborne to this vicarage, that it was endowed of old time in all tithes, excepting thoſe of ſheaves and grain; that it was by eſtimation, one year with another, of the annual value of ten pounds, and that the vicar had not any written compoſition, but took his endowment by antient cuſtom.

CHURCH OF LAMBERHURST.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
Prior and convent of Leeds.	*William Blackborne*, preſented in 1447.[a]
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter...	*Mr. Robert Stede*, 1627.[b]
	....., *Pratt*, 1720.
	Robert Pickering, obt. May 1733.
	Tobias Swinden, A. M. inſtit. July 11, 1733, obt. March 1754.[c]
	Samuel Denne, reſigned 1767.[d]
	Chardin Muſgrave, S. T. P. 1767, obt. March 1768.[e]
	John Newcombe, S. T. P. 1768, obt. 1775.[f]
	John Clarke, S. T. P. preſented Nov. 1775, reſigned 1776.[g]
	Charles Tarrant, S. T. P. Nov. 1776, reſigned 1783.[h]
	John Eveleigh, S. T. P. 1784, the preſent vicar.[i]

a Reg. Roff. p. 458.

b MSS. Twyſden. One of this name was ejected from this vicarage in 1662, by the Bartholomew Act. See Calamy's Life of Baxter, p. 286.

c Alſo rector of Kingſdown, near Sittingborne.

d Second ſon of archdeacon Denne. He reſigned this vicarage for that of Wilmington.

e Prebendary of Rocheſter, and provoſt of Oriel college, Oxford.

f Dean of Rocheſter, and in 1768 by diſpenſation rector of St. Mildred's Poultry, in London.

g Prebendary of Rocheſter, and provoſt of Oriel college. He reſigned the vicarage of Woodneſborough for this of Lamberhurſt, which he afterwards reſigned for the rectory of Kingſdown near Wrotham.

h See Wrotham, vol. v. p. 32.

i Provoſt of Oriel college, vicar of Aylesford by diſpenſation, and Preb. of Rocheſter.

HORSEMONDEN

IS the next pariſh northward from Lamberhurſt, a ſmall part of it is within the borough of Rugmerhill, which lies at the weſtern ſide of it adjoining to that of Brenchley, and is as ſuch within the antient demeſne of the manor of Aylesford, and conſequently exempt from the juriſdiction of this hundred.

A ſmall part of this pariſh is ſaid to be within the hundred of Larkfield.

THE PARISH OF HORSEMONDEN is ſituated much like that of Lamberhurſt laſt deſcribed. being a ſurface of continued hill and dale. It is bounded towards the north-eaſt and ſouth by different ſtreams of the river Medway, which flow from hence, and join the main river at Yalding, beſides which it is watered by two other ſmaller rivulets, and ſeveral leſſer ſprings interſperſed over it, all which join the larger ſtream on the ſouthern ſide of the pariſh. It is full four miles in length from north to ſouth, but its breadth is but ſmall, in ſome places not more than one, and in its broadeſt part not more than two miles. The high road from Maidſtone through Yalding to Lamberhurſt and Suſſex, runs through the whole length of the pariſh; that from Watringbury over Brandt bridge through Brenchley towards Goudhurſt croſſes this pariſh and the other road, at a ſmall green called Horſemonden-heath, which is built round with houſes, forming the only village in the pariſh, the reſt of the houſes being diſperſed ſingly over different parts of it. The ſoil, near the high road, is in general a ſand intermixed with the rock or ſand ſtone, the remainder is a deep ſtiff clay, exceeding miry in wet weather. It is much interſperſed with coppice woods of oak, eſpecially on the weſt and north ſides of it,

where the ſoil abounds with iron ore; the whole is much covered with fine ſpreading oak trees, which here from the ſoil being very kindly to their nouriſhment grow to a large ſize, and become ſometimes nearly equal in value to the freehold of the eſtates.

The church ſtands, with the parſonage, about a quarter of a mile diſtant from it, very near the ſouth-eaſt boundary of the pariſh. In the upper part of it near the river is a ſeat called Baynden, late belonging to Sir Charles Booth, of Stede-hill, deceaſed.

A fair is held here on St. Swithin's day, now by the alteration of the ſtyle on July 26, for cattle, pedlery and toys.

THE MANOR *of Horſemonden* was part of the antient poſſeſſions of the archbiſhopric of Canterbury, the archbiſhop holding it of the king *in capite* as one knight's fee, of whom it was again held by the noble family of Clare, earls of Glouceſter and Hertford.

It appears by the inquiſitions returned into the exchequer in the 13th and 14th years of king John, of the knights fees and other ſervices held *in capite*, that this place was then in the poſſeſſion of the family of Albrincis,[k] one of whom, William de Albrincis, or Averenches, dying *ſ. p.* Maud, his ſiſter, at length became her brother's heir, and entitled her huſband, Hamo de Crevequer, to the poſſeſſion of it. He died in the 47th year of king Henry the IIId.'s reign, before which however, this manor ſeems to have paſſed in marriage with one of his daughters, Elene, to Bertram de Criol.

In the 42d year of king Henry III. there was a compoſition entered into between archbiſhop Boniface and Richard de Clare, earl of Glouceſter, in relation to the cuſtoms and ſervices which the archbiſhop

[k] Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 468. See more of the family of Albrincis, under Folkeſtone.

claimed

claimed on account of the lands, which the earl held of him in Tunbridge, Horſemonden, and other places in this county, by which it was agreed that the earl ſhould do homage, and the ſervice of one knight's fee for the manor of Horſemonden, and ſuit at the court of the archbiſhop and his ſucceſſors at Canterbury.

In the 8th year of king Edward II. this manor was part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Rokeſle, the heirs of Roger de Rokeſle then holding it of the honor of Clare; one of theſe was Sir Richard de Rokeſle, who died without male iſſue, leaving by his wife Joane, ſiſter and heir of John de Criol, ſon of Bertram above-mentioned, two daughters his coheirs; of whom Agnes, the eldeſt, married Thomas de Poynings; and Joane, the youngeſt, firſt Hugh de Pateſhull, and ſecondly Sir William le Baud, each of whom in her right became poſſeſſed of this manor, and the latter of them died poſſeſſed of it in the 4th year of king Edward III. His widow, in the 20th year of that reign, paid aid for it, being then held of the earl of Glouceſter.

After which, although their ſon, Sir William Baud, ſeems to have had ſome intereſt in this eſtate, at his death in the 50th year of that reign, yet on hers, the manor itſelf came to her nephew Michael, ſon of Thomas de Poynings above mentioned, by Joane de Rokeſle her ſiſter, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to his grandſon Robert de Poynings, who died in the 25th year of king Henry VI. leaving Alianore, the wife of Sir Henry Percy, lord Percy, eldeſt ſon of Henry, earl of Northumberland, daughter of Richard de Poynings, his eldeſt ſon, who died in his life-time, his next heir; upon which the lord Percy, in her right, became entitled to this manor, and from him it continued down to Henry, earl of Northumberland, who died without iſſue in the 29th year of Henry the VIIIth.'s reign. The year before which, he

he by deed, granted to the king, all his manors, caſtles and eſtates,[1] although the year before this, an act had paſſed for aſſuming to the king all his lands and poſſeſſions, in caſe of failure of heirs of his body.

This manor thus coming to the crown, ſtayed not many years there, for the king in his 36th year, granted it to Stephen Darell, eſq. and Agnes his wife, to hold *in capite*. He died in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth, after which his two ſons, Henry and George ſucceſſively, poſſeſſed it, the latter of whom in the 10th year of that reign, alienated this manor to Richard Payne, who anno 17 queen Elizabeth, levied a fine of it, and ſome time afterwards alienated it to William Beſwicke, eſq. of Spelmonden, in this pariſh, ſheriff in the year 1616. He was ſon of William Beſwicke, alias Berwicke, alderman and lord-mayor of London, the ſon of Roger Beſwicke, of Cheſhire. They bore for their arms, *Gules, three bezants, a chief or*. His ſon, Arthur Beſwicke, was of Spelmonden, and married Martha, daughter of Laurence Waſhington, eſq. of Maidſtone, by whom he left an only daughter Mary his heir, who in her life-time ſettled this manor on Mr. Haughton, deſcended from thoſe of Haughton Tower, in Lancaſhire. He left two daughters his coheirs, the eldeſt of whom Anne, carried it in marriage to James Marriott, eſq. of Hampton, in Middleſex, who bore for his arms, *Barry of ſix, or, and ſable*. His ſon, of the ſame name, died *ſ. p.* in 1741, and gave it by will to his ſiſter Anne, for her life, and then to his ſecond couſin, Hugh Marriott, eſq. who died in 1753, leaving by Lydia, his wife, widow of Dr. Hutton, two ſons, James; and Thomas, ſlain at the ſiege of Madras in 1765, and one daughter Anne. James the eldeſt ſon is in holy orders, and LL. D. He married in 1767, Miſs Boſworth,

[1] See a further account of the Percies under North Cray, vol. ii. of this hiſtory, p. 144.

and

and is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor, and other eſtates in this pariſh.

There is no court held for this manor.

SPELMONDEN is an antient ſeat at the ſouthern boundary of this pariſh, which was once poſſeſſed by a family which took its ſurname from it. John de Spelmonden, one of the proprietors of it, is frequently mentioned in the deeds and evidences belonging to this eſtate; after they were become extinct here, this ſeat became part of the poſſeſſions of the eminent family of Poynings, one of whom Michael, ſon of Thomas de Poynings, by Joane de Rokeſle, poſſeſſed it at his death in the 43d year of king Edward III.

He left two ſons, Thomas, who died *ſ. p.* and Richard, who became his brother's heir, and died poſſeſſed of this eſtate in the 11th year of Richard II. He was ſucceeded in it by Robert de Poynings his only ſon, at whoſe death in the 25th year of king Henry VI. Robert, his younger ſon, ſeems to have inherited Spelmonden, and died in the 9th year of king Edward IV. His ſon and heir, Sir Edward Poynings, in the 14th year of that reign, alienated it to John Sampſon, whoſe ſon, Chriſtopher Sampſon, in the 37th year of king Henry VIII. paſſed it away by ſale to Stephen Darell, who afterwards reſided here, and his ſon, George Darell, in the 10th year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Richard Payne, of Twyford, in Middleſex, who in the 28th year of it ſold this eſtate to William Nutbrown, and he next year alienated it to George Cure, eſq. of Surry, from whom it immediately after was ſold to Arthur Langworth, and from him again as quickly to William Beſwicke, eſq. who afterwards reſided here, and was ſheriff in 1616. Since which this ſeat has paſſed in like manner as the manor of Horſemonden down to the Rev. Dr. Marriott, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

LEWIS-HEATH is a manor ſituated in the centre of this pariſh, which was antiently part of the poſſeſſions

of

of the family of Groveherſt, or Grotherſt, one of whom, John de Grotherſt, rector of this church, as his epitaph ſtill remaining in it informs us, gave this manor of Leueſhothe to the abbot and convent of Begeham, to find one perpetual chaplain to celebrate in the church of Horſemonden and chapel of Leueſhothe; and it continued part of the poſſeſſions of that abbey till the diſſolution of it in the 17th year of king Henry VIII. who that year granted it with all its poſſeſſions, among which was this manor, to cardinal Wolſey, for the better endowment of Cardinal's college, in Oxford; but on his being caſt in a *præmunire*, about four years afterwards, all the eſtates of that college, which, for want of time, had not been firmly ſettled on it, came into the king's hands, where this manor lay till queen Elizabeth, in the beginning of her reign, granted it to Anthony Brown, viſcount Montague, who, as appears by the inquiſition taken after his death, died poſſeſſed of it in 1593. He was ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſon and heir, who not long afterwards alienated it to William Beſwicke, eſq. of Spelmonden, in this pariſh, ſince which it has paſſed in like manner as that ſeat, and the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, to the Rev. Dr. Marriott, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

Sprivers is a manor ſituated on the weſtern ſide of this pariſh, which had antiently owners of that ſurname, one of whom, Robert Sprivers, died poſſeſſed of it in 1447, anno 26 Henry VI. and by his will deviſed it to his ſon of the ſame name. After this family was become extinct here, the Vanes became proprietors of it, from whom it paſſed into the name of Bathurſt.

Robert Bathurſt poſſeſſed this manor and reſided here in the reign of queen Elizabeth. He was ſecond ſon of Laurence Bathurſt, of Staplehurſt, whoſe eldeſt ſon Edward was anceſtor of the Bathurſts, of Franks, in this county, under which more may be

ſeen

ſeen of them. Robert Bathurſt, above-mentioned, was anceſtor by his firſt wife to thoſe of Letchlade, in Glouceſterſhire, and of Finchcocks and Wilmington, in this county, and by his ſecond wife of thoſe of Richmond, in Yorkſhire; ſoon after this it was alienated to Malbert, and from thence again, after no long intermiſſion, to Morgan, in which name it remained till it was ſold to Holman, whoſe deſcendant Anne Holman, in 1704, paſſed it away by ſale to Mr. Courthope, who bore for his arms, *Or, a feſs azure between three eſtoils ſable.* Some account of the different branches of whoſe family has already been given before under Brenchley. That branch of it, from which the Courthopes of Danny, in Suſſex, and thoſe of Horſemonden were deſcended, was ſeated at Goddards-green, in Cranbrook, in the reign of king Henry VIII. one of whom, Alexander Courthope, of Cranbrook, poſſeſſed lands there, in Biddenden, and Maidſtone, as appears by his will in the Prerogative-office, Canterbury, as early as the year 1525.

Mr. Courthope, the purchaſer of this eſtate, left by his wife, one of the ſiſters of Edward Mapleſden, of Cheveney, in Marden, a ſon, Alexander, and five daughters, who all died unmarried, except Barbara, who married Mr. Cole, of Marden, and died in 1783, by whom ſhe had two ſurviving ſons, Peter and John. Alexander Courthope, eſq. the ſon, rebuilt the manſion houſe of Sprivers at ſome diſtance from the antient one, and afterwards reſided in it with true old Engliſh hoſpitality, and with a reputation of the higheſt integrity. He died unmarried in 1779, and by his will gave this manor, with the eſtate belonging to it, to his nephew, John Cole, eſq. the preſent poſſeſſor, who reſides in it.

A court baron is regularly holden for this manor.

GROVEHURST is a manor which lies on the eaſtern ſide of this pariſh, and was in very early times part of the poſſeſſions of a family who took their ſurname from

from it. William Grovhurſt died poſſeſſed of it, with Puleyns in this pariſh, (now the property of the Rev. Richard Bathurſt, late of Finchcocks in Goudhurſt) in the 7th year of king Edward III; his deſcendant Richard Groveherſt left three daughters his coheirs, one of whom, Anne, carried this manor in marriage, about the latter end of the reign of king Richard II. to Richard Hextall, of Hextalls-court in Eaſt Peckham. His eldeſt ſon William, in the beginning of king Henry VI.'s reign, increaſed his property in this pariſh by the purchaſe of four eſtates here, called Hothe, Smeeths, Capell, and Auguſtpitts. He left Margaret his ſole daughter and heir, who carried them in marriage to William Whetenhall, eſq commonly called Whetnall, whoſe deſcendant of the ſame name, was ſheriff in the 18th year of king Henry VIII.'s reign, and in the 31ſt year of it procured his lands to be *diſgavelled* by the act paſſed that year.

His deſcendant, Henry Whetenhall, in the reign of king James I. paſſed away the manors of Grovehurſt, Hoathe, Smeethe, and Capell, (for that of Auguſtpitts had been before ſold off, being now the property of Mr. John Oſborne, who reſides at it,) together with a ſeat in this pariſh, called Broadford, ſituated near the bridge of that name over the river here, to Francis Auſten, the fifth ſon of Mr. John Auſten, of this pariſh, who dying in 1620, was buried in this church, where his arms ſtill remain, viz. *Or, on a chevron ſable three plates, between three lions paws erect and eraſed, ſable.* He afterwards reſided at Grovehurſt, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1687, and was buried here. He left a ſon, John Auſten, who was likewiſe of Grovehurſt, where he died in 1705, and was buried here. His ſon, John Auſten, eſq. reſided at Broadford, and died the year before him, leaving ſix ſons and one daughter, of whom John, the eldeſt, became his grandfather's heir to his eſtates in this pariſh, and Francis, the ſecond ſon, was father

of

of Francis Motley Auſten, eſq. now of Sevenoke in this county.

John Auſten, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, was of Broadford, and married Mary, daughter and coheir of Stephen Stringer, eſq. of Goudhurſt, by whom he had John Auſten, eſq. now of Broadford, who married Miſs Joanna Weekes, of Sevenoke, by whom he has one daughter Mary, and he is the preſent poſſeſſor of theſe manors and eſtates.

There is a court baron regularly held for the manors of Grovehurſt, Hoathe, and Smeethe.

BADMONDEN is a reputed manor in this pariſh, in which there was formerly a cell, but not conventual, belonging to the priory of Beaulieu, in Normandy; in which ſituation it continued till the general ſuppreſſion of the alien priories throughout England, in the 2d year of king Henry V. anno 1414, when their houſes and poſſeſſions were in parliament given to the king and his heirs, who the next year gave it to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rocheſter, where it remained till the diſſolution of that ſociety in 1540, when all the rents and revenues of it were ſurrendered into the king's hands, who by his dotation charter in his 33d year, ſettled it on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom the inheritance of it remains at this time.

The manor of Eaſt Farleigh and Eaſt Peckham claims over this part of Horſemonden; the freeholders in Badmonden holding their lands of it in *free ſocage* tenure.

BRAMBLES is a ſmall manor in this pariſh, which was heretofore the property of Mr. John Barnes, and now belongs to Mr. Ulherwood.

A court baron is held for this manor.

The manor of Gillingham claims over the tithing or hamlet of Baveden, in this pariſh, being one of the four denns in the Weald holden of that manor, the

the freeholders holding their lands of it *in free ſocage* tenure.

CHARITIES.

WILLIAM WYKES gave by will in 1682, for the maintenance of the poor in land, veſted in truſtees, the yearly produce of 14l. 6s. 6½d.

LADY ABERGAVENNY gave by will for the like purpoſe, in money and jewels, which were recovered by a decree in chancery in 1618, and laid out in the purchaſe of two farms, one in Tunbridge, of the clear annual produce of 19l. 16s. 5d. the other in Ticehurſt, of 7l. 8s.

The number of poor conſtantly relieved here is yearly about fifty, thoſe caſually twenty.

HORSEMONDEN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Malling.

The church is dedicated to St. Margaret; it is a handſome building; in it are memorials of Groſhurſt, Browne, Auſten, Courthope and Campion, and in the chancel, on the ſouth ſide, a fair altar tomb, without the appearance of having ever had any inſcription on it. Over the weſt door are the arms of Poynings and Fitzpaine; one of the former might very probably be the builder, or at leaſt a conſiderable benefactor to the building of it.

It is valued in the king's books at 26l. 3s. 9d. and the yearly tenths at 2l. 12s. 4½d.

The patronage of this church was, from the earlieſt time, an appendage to the manor of Horſemonden, and conſequently has had the ſame proprietors. There are two ſmall manors annexed to it, called the manors of Haſellets alias Radmanden, and Coſſington alias Heyden, for which there are court barons held—Theſe, with the rectory, are now part of the poſſeſſions of the Rev. Dr. Marriot, lord of the manor of Horſemonden.

Robert de Groſshurſt, of Horſemonden, in 1338, founded *a perpetual chantry* in this church, in the chapel of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, built in honor of her

her annunciation in the north part of it, to the praiſe of God, and for the ſouls of himſelf, his wife, &c. And he ordained, that after the firſt vacancy, the pariſhioners ſhould nominate the prieſt of it, to be preſented to the biſhop of Rocheſter, to be inſtituted and inducted into the ſaid chantry. The prieſt to reſide conſtantly, and to celebrate daily in it, according to the rules therein mentioned. And he ordained, that Sir William Langford, the firſt prieſt, and his ſucceſſors, perpetual chaplains of it, ſhould receive yearly for their maintenance, and the burthens incumbent on it, from the abbot and convent of Boxley, ſix marcs ſterling yearly rent, which he had purchaſed of them for the endowment of it. Anno 1445, the biſhop directed his official, &c. to enquire by inquiſition, among other matters, concerning the dotation and endowment of this chantry, when it was returned that it conſiſted in ſix marcs annual rent from the abbot of Boxlay, of forty ſhillings annual rent from lands in the pariſh of Merden, granted to the chaplain for a term of years, and in one meſſuage and gardens of the value of twelve-pence, and in rent in Horſemonden of ſix ſhillings per annum; and that the houſe of the chantry was ſo much out of repair, that ſix marcs would ſcarce be ſufficient to put it in good repair; and that thus the true value of this chantry, the burthens belonging to the chaplain of it being borne by him, amounted according to their eſtimation to eight marcs per annum.

Sir Edward Poynings gave twenty-four acres of land to the maintenance of lights in this church; from whence they obtained their preſent name of Torchfield.[m]

In the year 1701, this church was repaired by the aid of a brief collected for that purpoſe.

[m] Harris's Hiſtory of Kent, p. 155.

CHURCH OF HORSEMONDEN.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
	John de Groſhurſt.[n]
	John Wickham, in 1587.[o]
	Jeffry Amherſt, D. D. ſequeſtered in 1643.[p]
	John Crouch, A. M. ſequeſtered in 1653.[q]
	Edward Rawſon, 1653, ejected 1662.[r]
	John Crouch, reſtored in 1662.[s]
	Stephen Bate, obt. October 22, 1724.
	William Haſſel, A. M. inſtit. Oct. 19, 1724, obt. March 3, 1785, æt. 90.
Upon his own petition.	*James Marriott*, LL. D. 1785, the preſent rector.

n He lies buried in this church.

o Reg. Roff. p. 881.

p White's Century, p. 33, and Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, pt. ii. p. 183, 220.

q Ibid.

r He was ejected by the Bartholomew Act. Calamy's Life of Baxter, p. 286.

s White's Century, and Walker, ibid.

THE

HUNDRED

OF

WEST, ALIAS LITTLE BARNEFIELD.

THIS ſmall hundred lies ſouth-weſtward from that laſt deſcribed, being ſeparated from it by a ſmall diſtrict of the hundred of Marden, in the lath of Scray. It contains only the ſouth-eaſt part of the pariſh of Goudhurſt, but has neither the church nor the village within its bounds; the deſcription of it, therefore, will be given in the account of the reſt of that pariſh, which is ſituated in the hundred of Marden, within the lath of Scray.

THE

p. 323.

Bicknor Church, Kent.

THE HUNDRED OF EYHORNE

LIES at a ſmall diſtance north-eaſtward from that of Brenchley and Horſemonden laſt deſcribed, a ſmall diſtrict only of the hundred of Marden and lath of Scray intervening.

It is written in the book of Domeſday both *Aihorde* and *Haihorne*; but in the 7th year of king Edward I. it was called by its preſent name, the king being then lord of it.

In the ſurvey taken in 1650, by the truſtees appointed by parliament, for the ſale of the late king's revenues, it was returned, that the court leet, with all other courts and liberties, within the bailiwick of Eyhorne, and the hundred contained in it, being the

court of the ſaid hundreds and bailiwick, was conſtantly held at Eyhorne-green.

THE HUNDRED OF EYHORNE is the largeſt in this county, and contains within its bounds the pariſhes of,

1. HEDCORNE *in part*;
2. BOUGHTON MONCHENSIE;
3. LANGLEY;
4. CHART SUTTON;
5. SUTTON VALENCE;
6. EAST SUTTON;
7. ULCOMBE *in part*;
8. BOUGHTON MALHERBE;
9. LENHAM *in part*;
10. OTTERDEN;
11. WICHLING;
12. FRINSTED;
13. WORMSELL;
14. HARRIETSHAM;
15. HOLLINGBORNE;
16. BROMFIELD;
17. LEEDS;
18. OTHAM;
19. BERSTED *in part*;
20. BICKNOR *in part*;
21. HUCKING;
22. THURNHAM;
23. STOCKBURY *in part*; and
24. BREDHURST;

And the churches of thoſe pariſhes; and likewiſe part of the pariſhes of MARDEN and STAPLEHURST, the churches of which are in other hundreds.

HEDCORNE.

NORTH-EASTWARD from the hundred of Brenchley and Horſemonden, a ſmall ſpace of the hundred of Marden and lath of Scray only intervening, lies the pariſh of Hedcorne, within the bounds of ſeveral different hundreds; for the hundred of Eyhorne claims over that part of it, in which the weſtern part of the village and the church is ſituated. The hundred of Tenham claims over ſuch part of it as is within that manor; the hundreds of Barkley and Cranbrooke claim over the ſouthern part of it, the former hundred over ſo much as is within the borough of Stephurſt, and the latter over ſuch part as is within the north borough; both which parts are within the lath of Scray; and the hundred of Calehill claims over the eaſtern part of it.

So

So much of this parish as lies eastward of a line drawn by the east side of the church of Boughton Malherbe to the east head of the church of Hedcorne, and from thence eastward to the west head of the church of Smarden, containing all that part of it that is within the hundred of Calehill, is in *the eastern division* of this county, and the remaining part of the parish, on the western side of that line, is in *the division of West Kent*.

The manor of Tenham claims over a considerable part of this parish, and the manor of Ospringe over another part of it.

It appears by the roll of knights fees, taken anno 7 Edward I. that the archbishop of Canterbury, and the master of the Maison Dieu, at Ospringe, were returned as lords of this parish.

THE PARISH is unpleasantly situated in a very flat and low country, the aspect of which is very dreary and forlorn. The soil is a stiff clay, very deep and miry, except in the driest summers, when it becomes exceedingly hard, and the roads through it (which are very broad, with a space of green sword on each side, and from the depth of the soil almost impassable in wet seasons) from frequent traffic acquire in the drought of summer a hardness and a smooth glaze, or polish, like that on earthen pottery. The whole parish is watered by different little streamlets, which spread over it, and run into the stream of the Medway, which rises near Goldwell, in Great Chart, and passes along this parish a little to the southward of the village in its way towards Style-bridge, and the main river, which it joins a little below Yalding.

The village or town of Hedcorne, with the church at the west end of it, situated nearly in the centre of the parish, is an unfrequented dull place. There are several small hamlets built round the different greens or postalls in the parish.

In the 47th year of king Edward III. Robert Belknap, and others, were aſſigned to view all the banks, &c. betwixt Hetecrone and Ealdyng, as well as between Patyndenneſmell and Elherſt, in this county, and to do what ſhould be requiſite concerning them according to the law and cuſtom of the realm. A new commiſſion of ſewers has been within theſe few years obtained, to ſcour and cleanſe the branch of the river Medway from Great Chart through this pariſh, to its junction with the main river a little below the town of Yalding.

King Henry III. in his 34th year, granted to the maſter and brethren of the Maiſon Dieu, at Oſpringe, founded by him not many years before, the privilege of a market and a fair to be held in this pariſh of Hedcorn :[t] The fair uſed formerly to be held on St. Peter's day, June 29; but has been for ſome years paſt held on June 12th yearly.

The hundred of Tenham is bound to repair one arch of the bridge, and thirty yards of cauſeway at the end of it, lying in that part of this pariſh, within that hundred.

MOTTENDEN, or more truly *Modinden*, is a manor ſituated in the northern part of this pariſh, which with the eſtate belonging to it, called Great and Little Mottenden, antiently belonged to the family of Rokeſle; one of whom, Sir Richard de Rokeſle, in the year 1224, anno 9 Henry III. founded a priory on this manor, for friars of the order of the holy trinity, commonly called Trinitarians, being the firſt houſe of this order in England. Their rule was that of St. Auſtin, with ſome peculiar conſtitutions. Their habit, a white gown, with a red and blue croſs on their breaſts; their revenues were divided, one part for their ſupport and maintenance, another to relieve the poor, and a third to redeem ſuch Chriſtians as ſhould be

[t] Tan. Mon. p. 222. Dugd. Imbanking, p. 45.

taken

taken captives by the infidels. To this priory the founder at the ſame time gave this manor; and there were from time to time ſeveral pardons and indulgencies granted by the ſucceeding popes to the benefactors of it, which increaſed both the reputation and revenues of it.

In the Surrenden library is a deed, which ſhews the tenor of theſe pardons and indulgencies, and the benefits ariſing from them, from the weak ſuperſtition of different perſons, ſome of whom appear to have been of no mean rank and conſequence; by it Brother Richard, miniſter (by which name the head of this houſe was called) of this houſe of Motynden, certified that many of the Roman pontiffs having endowed the co-brethren and co-ſiſters of his order with many privileges, eſpecially in that they might each chuſe for themſelves a confeſſor, who might abſolve them from all matters not reſerved to the apoſtolic ſee, and once in their lives, even from all thoſe likewiſe concerning which the ſee itſelf was of courſe to be conſulted. And as John Dering, eſq. of Surrenden Dering, had taken on himſelf this fraternity in the manner of a confreer, and become a benefactor to comply with the tenor of the apoſtolic letters, he aſſociated him in his life, as well as in death, together with all their friends alive and dead, in all maſſes, and prayers, and ſuffrages of their religion, which deed is dated under the ſeal of their confraternity in the year 1495.

In the 38th year of king Henry III. they procured the grant of a fair to be held yearly at this manor. In the 8th year of king Richard II. the temporalities of this priory were valued at one hundred ſhillings per annum,[u] and it continued in this ſtate till the 27th year of king Henry VIII's reign, when an act paſſing for the ſuppreſſion of all ſuch religious houſes,

[u] Decem. Script. Thorne, coll. 2163.

whoſe revenues did not amount to the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds, and for giving them to the king, this priory, the yearly revenues of which amounted to no more than 60l. 13s. 0½d. was ſurrendered, with all its lands and poſſeſſions, the principal of which lay in this and other pariſhes, in this county, and in that of Suſſex, to the king's uſe. At which time it appears that there was a houſeof friars at Hertford, called Le Trinitye, ſubordinate to this of Mottinden.[w]

This manor, with the ſcite of the priory and lands belonging to it, did not after this long remain in the hands of the crown;[x] for the king granted them in his 30th year to Thomas, lord Cromwell, who was the next year created earl of Eſſex; but the year after being found guilty of high treaſon, was executed on Tower-hill, in the 32d year of that reign, anno 1540. On which they came again into the hands of the crown, where the fee of them lay till the king, in his 36th year, granted the manor of Motynden, with its appurtenances, the ſcite of the priory, or houſe of the late Crouched-friars there, and ſeveral lands late belonging to it, to Anthony Aucher, gent. of Swinfield, (who was the eldeſt ſon of James Aucher, eſq. of Otterden-place) to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice. He aſſigned this eſtate, in the 2d year of king Edward VI. to Walter Hendley, eſq. in truſt, who quickly afterwards conveyed it to his ſon-in-law, Thomas Colepeper, eſq. and he in the 4th year of that reign, paſſed it away to his ſon-in-law, Chriſtopher Sackville, eſq. who ſoon afterwards alienated it to George Sydenham, eſq. and Elizabeth his wife, who were in poſſeſſion of it anno 3 Elizabeth. His ſon George Sydenham, in the 25th year of it veſted this

[w] Tan. Mon. p. 221, 189. See the penſions paid to the late members in 1553, in Willis's Mitred Abbeys, vol. ii. p. 103.

[x] See Frindſbury, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 533.

eſtate

eſtate in truſtees, who quickly afterwards ſold it to Franklyn, whoſe ſon George Franklyn dying *ſ. p.* gave it by his will to his kinſman Sir William Sedley, of the Friars, in Aylesford, created a baronet in 1611, whoſe ſon, Sir John Sedley, bart. of Aylesford, had three ſons, the two eldeſt of whom, Sir Henry and Sir William, dying *ſ. p* this eſtate came to their youngeſt brother, Sir Charles Sedley, a poſthumous ſon, who became noted for his wit and gallantry in the reign of king Charles II.[y] whoſe only daughter Catherine, was by king James II. created counteſs of Dorcheſter and baroneſs of Darlington for life. She inherited this manor and eſtate on her father's death, and afterwards carried it in marriage to Sir David Colyear, bart. in 1699, lord Portmore, in Scotland, and in 1703, earl of Portmore and viſcount Milſington. His eldeſt ſon Charles, earl of Portmore, in 1732, ſucceeded him in title, and in this eſtate, and in 1770 paſſed away this manor, with the farms of Great and Little Mottenden, to John Sawbridge, eſq. of Ollantigh, in this county, who a few years ago ſold them to Jeremiah Curteis, gent. who is the preſent owner of them.

A court baron is held for this manor.

Peter Huſey, archdeacon of Northampton, by his will in 1499, appointed his body to be buried in the choir of the Holy Trinity convent at Mottenden, where he had made his tomb; and it ſeems he died in this priory.

Kelsham is an eſtate in this pariſh, which lies at a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from Mottenden, and though now only a farm-houſe, was formerly accounted a manor, and was the reſidence of gentlemen, known by that ſurname, who bore for their arms, *Sable, a feſs engrailed argent, between three garbs or*, as appeared by the figure of one of them, with theſe arms on his tabard, formerly in painted glaſs in the windows of this

[y] See more of this family under Aylesford, vol. iv. p. 429.

church,

church, but long ſince deſtroyed. In this name the poſſeſſion of it ſeems to have continued till the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, when it was conveyed to Johnſon, whence it came by purchaſe to John Stringer, of Triggs, in Goudhurſt,[z] who gave this eſtate by his will to his ſecond ſon, John Stringer, gent. of Aſhford, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1679, leaving by Anne Witherden his wife, an only daughter Mary, who entitled her huſband, Anthony Irby, eſq. to it. He ſold it in 1706 to George Charlton, eſq. of Boxley, who had iſſue by Elizabeth his wife ten children; of whom the ſecond ſon John Charlton, eſq. of Boxley, by his father's will inherited this eſtate, and dying unmarried in 1770, by his will deviſed this eſtate to his nephew, the Rev. George Burvill, rector of Leyborne, in this county, eldeſt ſon of his ſiſter Anne. But Mr. John Burden, only ſon of Charlotte, another of Mr. Charlton's ſiſters, claiming a moiety of this eſtate; on a trial in 1772, he had a verdict in his favor; preſently after which, he ſold the whole of his intereſt in it to the Rev. Mr. Burvill before-mentioned, who reſides at Boxley, and is the preſent poſſeſſor of the whole of this eſtate.[a]

KENTS CHANTRY, now called *the Chantry farm*, had the former of theſe names from there having been a chantry founded on it, by one John Kent, in the 6th year of king Edward IV. who ſettled a handſome income to ſupport the prieſt, who was to officiate at it. This chantry was ſuppreſſed before the 30th year of king Henry VIII. for the ſcite of it ſeems then to have been granted to Thomas, lord Cromwell, afterwards earl of Eſſex, who ſoon afterwards exchanged it with the king for other premiſes.

This eſtate remained in the crown till the 36th year of that reign, when the king granted the ſcite of this

[z] See a full account of the Stringers under Goudhurſt.
[a] See more of the Burvills under Boxley, vol. iv. p. 325.

ſuppreſſed

ſuppreſſed chantry, with ſeveral lands belonging to it, in Hedcorne and elſewhere, to Sir Anthony St. Leger, and the heirs male of his body, to hold *in capite* by knights ſervice, and in the 4th year of Edward VI. he obtained a freſh grant of it to him and his heirs, to hold by the like ſervice. He was lord deputy of Ireland, knight of the garter, and of the privy council, and died in 1559, whoſe eldeſt ſon, Warham St. Leger, eſq. afterwards knighted, lord preſident of Munſter and a privy counſellor of Ireland, ſold it, about the middle of queen Elizabeth's reign, to Thomas Colepeper, and he, in the 23d year of it, alienated it to Michael Beresford, of Weſterham,[b] who ſettled it on one of his daughters Anne, married to Sir William Southland, of Lee, in Ickham. Their ſon Thomas Southland, eſq. alienated it to Mr. William Belcher, rector of Ulcombe, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to the Rev. Mr. Stringer Belcher, likewiſe rector of that pariſh, who died in 1739, and by Sarah his wife, daughter of Juſtinian Champneys, eſq. of Boxley, left four daughters his coheirs, Catherine, married to Benjamin Neale Bayley, eſq. of Ireland; Judith, ſince deceaſed; Elizabeth, now ſingle; and Sarah, married to the Rev. Joſeph Milner, afterwards Butler, of Aylesford, in this county.[c] They poſſeſſed this eſtate in undivided ſhares, which they afterwards joined in the ſale of to Mr. John Boreman, of this pariſh, who is now entitled to the entire fee of it.

RISHFORDS, uſually called *Ruſhfords*, is a manor in this pariſh, which antiently gave name to a family who were poſſeſſors of it; one of them, Adam de Riſhford, held this manor in the reign of king Edward II. of the maſter of the Maiſon Dieu, in Oſpringe; but they were extinct here before the 20th year of king Edward III. when John, ſon of John de Peende, held it of the ſaid

[b] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 9. See Weſterham, vol. iii. p. 166.
[c] See more of the Belchers under Hucking and Ulcombe.

maſter,

maſter, and then paid reſpective aid for it. This manor continued in his deſcendants till Stephen Peend, alias de la Pynd, and Martha his wife, in 1611, conveyed it to Chriſtopher Fullagar, alias Domine, who, in the 9th year of king Charles I. conveyed it to Mr. John Hulkes, of Newnham, from whom it deſcended to Mr. Nathaniel Hulſe, gent. of Acriſe, for ſo he ſpelt his name, and he, with Elizabeth his wife, in 1772, conveyed this manor to Mr. John Goldſmith, ſurgeon, of Chatham, who in 1736 ſettled it in marriage with his daughter Frances, on the Rev. Peter Wade, rector of Cowling, vicar of Boughton Monchenſie, and a minor canon of Rocheſter cathedral. By her he had one ſon John, a captain in the military branch of ordnance, who is married and has iſſue; and three daughters, Frances, married to Mr. alderman Stephens, of Rocheſter; Anne, to Mr. Gother Mann; and Mary. He died in 1783, and his ſon captain John Wade, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

SOUTHOLMENDEN is a manor in this pariſh, the name of which is mentioned in a charter of Offa, king of Mercia, dated in 791, by which he gave among other premiſes Suthelmingden to Chriſt-church, in Canterbury. In the 2d year of Edward IV. Thomas Whytingbroke, of Hedcorne, gave by will his capital meſſuage and lands, lying in Sowtholmynden, to his ſon John; of later times it has been for ſeveral generations poſſeſſed by the family of Auſten, with whom it continued till Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Auſten, of Marden, carried it in marriage to William Gammon, of Wrotham, whoſe ſon, the Rev. Auſten Gammon, of Watringbury, in this county, is the preſent owner of it.

A court baron is held for this manor.

BLECHENDEN, alias CRUTTENDEN, is a manor here, which was part of the antient poſſeſſions of that branch of the eminent family of Colepeper, ſeated at Aylesford; of whom, William Colepepyr was created a baronet

ronet in 1627. In his descendants it continued down to Sir Thomas Colepepyr, bart. of Preston-hall, who died in 1723, *s. p.* leaving Alicia his sister, then the widow of Sir Thomas Taylor, bart. of Maidstone, his heir, and she passed it away to Mr. Thomas Best, of Chatham, whose grandson, Thomas Best, esq. of Chilston, dying *s. p.* in 1795, gave it by will to his nephew George Best, esq. now of Chilston, the present owner of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

THE MANORS OF WISPERHAWKE, alias *Whitsperhawke* and HAMPDEN in this parish, were formerly owned by a family of the first of those names; one of whom, Simon Whytsphawk, was possessed of them anno 2 Edward IV. They afterwards passed into the name of Hennand, and descended down to Thomas Hennand, whose heir-at law conveyed them by sale to Galfridus Mann, esq. who died possessed of them, together with *Hedcorne-place*, in 1756, and his only son, Sir Horace Mann, bart. is the present possessor of these estates.

CHARITIES.

THE REV. JOHN POTHERBYE gave by will in 1616, 40s. of which 10s for a sermon on the day of his burial, and 30s. among the poorest sort of inhabitants who should come to hear it to be paid out of the rent of a small farm, vested in the minister, churchwardens and overseers.

JOHN TOPLIFE gave by will in 1637 a house, barn, garden, and orchard adjoining the church-yard, rented now at 3l. 15s. per annum, the clear produce of which to be distributed at Easter yearly to four poor householders or widows, who receive no weekly pay, vested in the churchwardens, and to be distributed at their and the minister's discretion.

CLEMENT FISH, in 1638, as is supposed, gave to the poor who receive no alms, 40s. payable yearly out of a farm in this parish, vested in the minister, who disposes of it.

THOMAS SWAFFER gave by will in 1646, for the use of the poor, 15s. per annum, payable out of the rent of a house and garden in this parish, vested in the parish officers.

REV. SAMUEL WHISTONE gave by will in 1716, 5l. per annum, that is 10s. for a sermon, on May 2, yearly, O. S. 2s. 6d. the clerk, for ringing out the great bell before sermon; and

maſter, and then paid reſpective aid for it. This manor continued in his deſcendants till Stephen Peend, alias de la Pynd, and Martha his wife, in 1611, conveyed it to Chriſtopher Fullagar, alias Domine, who, in the 9th year of king Charles I. conveyed it to Mr. John Hulkes, of Newnham, from whom it deſcended to Mr. Nathaniel Hulſe, gent. of Acriſe, for ſo he ſpelt his name, and he, with Elizabeth his wife, in 1772, conveyed this manor to Mr. John Goldſmith, ſurgeon, of Chatham, who in 1736 ſettled it in marriage with his daughter Frances, on the Rev. Peter Wade, rector of Cowling, vicar of Boughton Monchenſie, and a minor canon of Rocheſter cathedral. By her he had one ſon John, a captain in the military branch of ordnance, who is married and has iſſue; and three daughters, Frances, married to Mr. alderman Stephens, of Rocheſter; Anne, to Mr. Gother Mann; and Mary. He died in 1783, and his ſon captain John Wade, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

SOUTHOLMENDEN is a manor in this pariſh, the name of which is mentioned in a charter of Offa, king of Mercia, dated in 791, by which he gave among other premiſes Suthelmingden to Chriſt-church, in Canterbury. In the 2d year of Edward IV. Thomas Whytingbroke, of Hedcorne, gave by will his capital meſſuage and lands, lying in Sowtholmynden, to his ſon John; of later times it has been for ſeveral generations poſſeſſed by the family of Auſten, with whom it continued till Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Auſten, of Marden, carried it in marriage to William Gammon, of Wrotham, whoſe ſon, the Rev. Auſten Gammon, of Watringbury, in this county, is the preſent owner of it.

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ronet in 1627. In his deſcendants it continued down to Sir Thomas Colepepyr, bart. of Preſton-hall, who died in 1723, *ſ. p.* leaving Alicia his ſiſter, then the widow of Sir Thomas Taylor, bart. of Maidſtone, his heir, and ſhe paſſed it away to Mr. Thomas Beſt, of Chatham, whoſe grandſon, Thomas Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, dying *ſ. p.* in 1795, gave it by will to his nephew George Beſt, eſq. now of Chilſton, the preſent owner of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

THE MANORS OF WISPERHAWKE, alias *Whitſperhawke* and HAMPDEN in this pariſh, were formerly owned by a family of the firſt of thoſe names; one of whom, Simon Whytſphawk, was poſſeſſed of them anno 2 Edward IV. They afterwards paſſed into the name of Hennand, and deſcended down to Thomas Hennand, whoſe heir-at law conveyed them by ſale to Galfridus Mann, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of them, together with *Hedcorne-place*, in 1756, and his only ſon, Sir Horace Mann, bart. is the preſent poſſeſſor of theſe eſtates.

CHARITIES.

THE REV. JOHN POTHERBYE gave by will in 1616, 40s. of which 10s for a ſermon on the day of his burial, and 30s. among the pooreſt ſort of inhabitants who ſhould come to hear it, to be paid out of the rent of a ſmall farm, veſted in the miniſter, churchwardens and overſeers.

JOHN TOPLIFE gave by will in 1637 a houſe, barn, garden, and orchard adjoining the church-yard, rented now at 3l. 15s. per annum, the clear produce of which to be diſtributed at Eaſter yearly to four poor houſeholders or widows, who receive no weekly pay, veſted in the churchwardens, and to be diſtributed at their and the miniſter's diſcretion.

CLEMENT RISH, in 1638, as is ſuppoſed, gave to the poor who receive no alms, 40s. payable yearly out of a farm in this pariſh, veſted in the miniſter, who diſpoſes of it.

THOMAS SWAFFER gave by will in 1646, for the uſe of the poor, 15s. per annum, payable out of the rent of a houſe and garden in this pariſh, veſted in the pariſh officers.

REV. SAMUEL WHISTONE gave by will in 1716, 5l. per annum, that is 10s. for a ſermon, on May 2, yearly, O. S. 2s. 6d. to the clerk, for ringing out the great bell before ſermon; and

and 37s. 6d. to ſuch poor as ſhould come to hear the ſermon, and were willing to accept of it. The other 50s. to be diſtributed in like manner yearly on the day of his burial, the 2d of Auguſt, O. S. He gave likewiſe to the poor of the pariſh a houſe and garden in the town of Hedcorne, the clear rent of which to be diſtributed on Whit-Sunday and Chriſtmas-day, yearly, to ſuch poor perſons as receive no relief, veſted in the miniſter and churchwardens, and now rented at 4l. per annum.

The number of poor conſtantly relieved are about ſixty-five, caſually eighteen.

HEDCORNE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Charing.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It was founded by one of the family of Colepeper, owners of conſiderable property in this pariſh. The monument and arms of the founder ſtill remain in the ſouth wall of it, and the latter are carved in ſtone over the weſt door of the belfry. One of theſe coats has a a *creſcent* on the upper part of the *bend*; there are likewiſe two coats of Kelſham, the one impaling, *Ermine, on a chief gules, two mullets or*; the other, *Sable, a chevron between three tents argent*, and a coat, having *A chevron between three garbs, and three croſs-croſlets fitchee, one and two.*

The church of Hedcorne was part of the poſſeſſions of the crown, and remained ſo till king Henry III. granted the parſonage or rectory of it to his new-erected Maiſon Dieu, founded by him at Oſpringe, and the advowſon of the vicarage to the archbiſhop of Canterbury and his ſucceſſors.

In 1267 friar Elyas, maſter of this hoſpital, agreed that archbiſhop Boniface, patron of this church, by the grant of the prince their founder, ſhould allow over and above the income of the vicarage, which William de Tilemanſtone, perpetual vicar of it then had, the ſum of one hundred ſhillings out of the groſs fruits of it to be paid without any diminution.[d]

[d] MSS. of biſhop Tanner in Bibl. Bodl. Oxon. p. 99.

The

The parſonage of the church of Hedcorne, with the *manor* of it, remained part of the poſſeſſions of the before-mentioned houſe or hoſpital till the diſſolution of it in the 22d year of king Edward IV. by its being deſerted by the two only remaining members of it; and thus devolving to the crown, the king committed the cuſtody or guardianſhip of it to ſecular perſons; in which ſtate it continued till biſhop Fiſher obtained it, with all its lands and revenues, of king Henry VIII. in his 7th year, for St. John's college, in Cambridge, as a fit compenſation for the lands which that ſociety had lately loſt. This grant was afterwards renewed by the king in his 11th year, and confirmed by the archbiſhop, the prior and convent, and the archdeacon of Canterbury, for their ſeveral parts and intereſts. In which ſtate this parſonage, with the manor of it, now remains, being part of the poſſeſſions of the maſter and fellows of the above-mentioned college.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. anno 1384, the parſonage of Hedcorne was valued at 13l. 6s. 8d.

The advowſon of the vicarage ſtill continues part of the poſſeſſions of his grace the archbiſhop of Canterbury. It is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-five pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 1l. 11s. 4d. In 1640 it was valued at fifty pounds per annum. Communicants four hundred.

CHURCH OF HEDCORNE.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*

RECTORS.

Henry de Oſprenge, clerk, ſon of *Symon.*[e]

VICARS.

William de Tilemanſtone, in 1267.

William Ketellyſden, 1507.[f]

[e] Regiſt. Eccleſ. Chriſti, Cant. cart. 1526.

[f] Wills, Prerogative-office, Canterbury.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
	Francis Rawſon, ind. Auguſt 1566.
	John Fotherley, A. M. March 1, 1584. reſigned 1602.
	John Raynard, A. M. May 8, 1602, obt. 1610.
	John Wood, Aug. 11, 1610, reſigned 1610.
	Thomas Harman, A. B. Dec. 6, 1610, reſigned 1638.
	Nicholas Bret, S. T. B. Jan. 10, 1638.[g]
	Thomas Philips, obt. 1673.
	Samuel Whiſtone, 1673, obt. 1716.[h]
	Henry Hodſon, A. B. Oct. 9, 1716, reſigned 1723.
	James Barham, May 27, 1723.
	Peter Heyman, 1733.[i]
The archbiſhop.	*Joſeph Hardy*, 1762, obt. 1786.
	Daniel Evans, 1786, the preſent vicar.

g See Walker's Suff. of the Clergy, pt. ii. p. 203.

h Brother to Jonathan, vicar of Betherſden.

i A younger ſon of Sir Peter Heyman, bart.

BOUGHTON MONCHENSIE

LIES the next pariſh northward from Hedcorne. It is written in Domeſday, *Boltone*; in later records, *Bocton*, and ſometimes *Weſt Bocton*; and now uſually *Boughton*. It has the addition of *Monchenſie*, (commonly pronounced *Monchelſea*) to it from the family of that name, antiently poſſeſſors of it, and to diſtinguiſh it from the other pariſhes of the ſame name within this county; and it is ſometimes called, in the neighbourhood of it, *Boughton Quarry*, from the large quarries of ſtone within it.

THIS PARISH lies upon the lower or ſouthern ridge, commonly called the Quarry hills, which croſs it, the ſummit

ſummit of them being the northern boundary of the Weald, ſo much therefore of this pariſh as is below it is within that diſtrict. The church ſtands about half way down of the hill ſouthward, and cloſe to the church-yard is the antient manſion of Boughton-place, pleaſantly ſituated, having an extenſive proſpect ſouthward over the Weald, in a park well wooded and watered; from hence the pariſh extends into the Weald, towards that branch of the Medway which flows from Hedcorne towards Style-bridge and Yalding, over a low deep country, where the ſoil is a ſtiff clay like that of Hedcorne before-deſcribed. Northward from Boughton-place, above the hill, the pariſh extends over Cocks-heath, part of which is within its bounds, on the further ſide of it is a hamlet called Boughton-green, and beyond it the ſeat of Boughton-mount, the grounds of which are watered by the ſtream, which riſes near Langley-park, and having loſt itſelf under ground, riſes again in the quarries here, and flowing on through Loſe, to which this pariſh joins here, joins the Medway a little above Maidſtone. Theſe large and noted quarries, uſually known by the name of Boughton quarries, are of the Kentiſh rag-ſtone, of which the ſoil of all this part of the pariſh, as far as the hills above-mentioned conſiſts, being covered over with a fertile loam, of no great depth. At the end of Cocks-heath eaſtward is the hamlet of Cock-ſtreet, uſually called, from a public-houſe in it, Boughton Cock, when the ſoil becomes a red earth, much mixed with rotten flints; a little to the ſouthward of which, at the edge of the heath is the parſonage, with ſome coppice wood adjoining, and on the brow of the hill, at the eaſtern bounds of the pariſh, the ſeat of Wiarton, having an extenſive proſpect over the Weald.

THIS PARISH was part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror, on his acceſſion to the crown of England, to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, whom he likewiſe made earl of Kent; under the general

title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken about the year 1080:

Hugh, grandſon of Herbert, holds of the biſhop of Baieux Boltone. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is two carucates. In demeſne there is nothing. But five villeins have five carucates there, and two acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of twenty hogs. There is a church. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth eight pounds, now ſix pounds. Aluuin held it of earl Goduine.

Four years after the taking the above-mentioned ſurvey, the biſhop of Baieux was diſgraced, and all his poſſeſſions were confiſcated to the crown.

After which, this manor came into the poſſeſſion of the family of Montchenſie, called in Latin records, *De Monte Caniſio*, the principal ſeat of which was at Swanſcombe, in this county.[k] William, ſon of William de Montchenſie, who died anno 6 king John, was poſſeſſed of this manor, and it appears that he ſurvived his father but a few years, for Warine de Montchenſie, probably his uncle, ſucceeded to his whole inheritance in the 15th year of that reign. Soon after which this manor paſſed into the poſſeſſion of the family of Hougham, of Hougham, in this county.

Robert de Hougham died poſſeſſed of it in the 41ſt year of king Henry III. as did his deſcendant of the ſame name in the 10th year of Edward II. without male iſſue, leaving a daughter Benedicta, who carried her intereſt in this eſtate in marriage to John de Shelving, of Shelvingbourne, and he died in the 4th year of Edward III. leaving his wife Benedicta ſurviving, who in the 20th year of that reign paid reſpective aid for this manor, which the heirs of Robert de Hougham then held at Weſt Bocton of Hugh de Vere. She died in the 22d year of that reign; after which this name expired in two daughters and coheirs, one of whom,

[k] See Swanſcombe, vol. ii. of this hiſtory, p. 404.

Helen,

Helen, was married to John de Bourne; and the other Joan, to John Brampton, alias Detling, of Detling-court, who entitled their huſbands to their reſpective rights in this manor. Robert Bourne died poſſeſſed of *one part of it* in the 42d year of king Edward III. which his daughter and heir carried in marriage to Edmund Haut, of Haut's-place, in Petham, who poſſeſſed it in the 8th year of king Henry IV. in which year he was ſheriff. His deſcendant alienated it before the end of king Henry VI.'s reign to Reginald Peckham, eſq. who was then in poſſeſſion of it, as appears by an old court-roll of that time.

The other, and by far the greateſt part of this manor, on the death of John Brampton, alias Detling, above-mentioned, deſcended to his daughter Benedicta, who carried it in marriage to Thomas at Towne, of Townes-place, in Throwley, and he died likewiſe without male iſſue, leaving his three daughters his coheirs; one of whom, Benedicta, the ſecond, carried this part in marriage to William Watton, eſq. of Addington, who at the latter end of king Henry VI.'s reign, conveyed it by ſale to Reginald Peckham, eſq. above-mentioned, owner of the other part of this manor, who by this purchaſe became then ſole lord of the whole of it. His grandſon Thomas Peckham, eſq. died in the 12th year of Henry VIII. and deviſed it at his death to his daughter, who carried it in marriage to Harpur, who preſently afterwards alienated it to Sir Thomas Wiatt, as he did to Robert Rudſton, eſq. who was the ſon of Sir John Rudſton, of London, lord mayor in 1528, whoſe father, Walter Rudſton, was of Hatton, in Yorkſhire. They bore for their arms, *Argent, three bulls heads eraſed ſable.* In the 2d and 3d year of king Edward VI. he procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled*, by the act then paſſed for this purpoſe. But having engaged with Sir Thomas Wyatt in his unfortunate rebellion, in the 1ſt year of queen Mary, he was, among others, found guilty, and condemned

to be executed: which ſentence the queen was pleaſed to reſpite,[l] and in the 1ſt year of queen Elizabeth he was by act reſtored in blood, and to his poſſeſſions likewiſe, and reſided at this manor, the manſion of which he made great additions to. Iſaac, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in this manor, and left an only daughter and heir Anne, married to Samuel Michel, eſq. of Old Windſor, on which it came, by the entail of his father's will, to Belknap Rudſton his brother, who dying *ſ. p.* deviſed it by his will in 1613 to Sir Francis Barnham, of Hollingborne, the eldeſt ſon of Sir Martin Barnham, of London, by his ſecond wife. His firſt wife, Anne Rudſton, by whom he had only two daughters, being Sir Barnham's ſiſter.

Sir Francis Barnham, reſided at Hollingborne. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sampſon Lennard, eſq. of Chevening, ſiſter of Henry, lord Dacre, by whom he had fifteen children; of whom, Robert, the ſecond, but eldeſt ſurviving ſon, was ſeated at Boughton Monchenſie, and was created a baronet in 1663. He was ſucceeded in title and eſtate by Sir Robert Barnham, bart. his grandſon (ſon of Francis Barnham, eſq. who died in his father's life-time in 1668) who left an only daughter and heir, Philadelphia, who carried this manor in marriage to Thomas Rider, eſq. Theſe Riders ſeem to be deſcended from thoſe of Low Layton, in Eſſex, their arms being the ſame, viz. *Azure, three creſcents or*; of which family was Sir William Rider, lord-mayor of London anno 42 Elizabeth.[m]—His eldeſt ſon, Sir Barnham Rider, ſucceeded his father in this manor, and reſided here. He died in 1728, and was ſucceeded by his only ſon Thomas, afterwards Sir Thomas Rider, who reſided at Boughton-place, where he kept his ſhrievalty in 1754. He died unmarried in 1786, upon

[l] Rym. Fœd. vol. xv. p. 373. See Fox's Martyrs, vol. iii. p. 80. [m] See Morant's Eſſex, vol. i. p. 23.

which

which this manor came by his will to his firſt couſin Ingram Rider, eſq. who now reſides here.

WIARTON-HOUSE is a ſeat in the eaſtern part of this pariſh, which antiently gave name and reſidence to a family, poſſeſſors of it. Adam de Wiarton poſſeſſed it in the reign of king Henry III. and his deſcendants continued owners of it until the latter end of the reign of Richard II. when one of them alienated it to Robert Purſe, whoſe ſon of the ſame name died poſſeſſed of it in 1452, and was buried in this church, having been a good benefactor to it, by new building the belfry and north iſle of it, and his portrait in painted glaſs in the window over the place of his interment, remained entire till the civil wars of king Charles I's reign, when it was broken to pieces, all but one hand holding out a purſe, put up in alluſion to his name. His ſon alienated this ſeat to Richard Norton, whoſe wife Margaret dying in 1507, lies interred under the ſeat in this church belonging to Wiarton-houſe; in which name it continued till the reign of king James I. when it was ſold to Sir Anthony St. Leger, maſter of the rolls in Ireland, and privy counſellor, the third ſon of Sir Anthony St. Leger, of Ulcombe, in this county, lord deputy of Ireland. He left an only ſon, Sir Anthony St. Leger, who ſucceeded him in this ſeat, in which he reſided in the reign of king Charles I. After whoſe death his heirs alienated it to Nathaniel Powell, eſq. of Ewhurſt, in Suſſex, deſcended from John Powell, eſq. of Ednop, in Salop, whoſe ſon Meredith Powell, of Brampton Ralf, in Somerſerſhire, was father of Nathaniel Powell, eſq. created a baronet in 1663, and purchaſer of this ſeat, who likewiſe reſided here; whoſe eldeſt ſon, Barnham Powell, eſq. dying in his life-time, Sir Nathaniel Powell, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded his grandfather here, and died unmarried in 1708, and was ſucceeded by his only ſurviving brother, Sir Chriſtopher Powell, bart. who reſided at Wierton, and in 1734 was choſen knight of the ſhire for this county.

He bore for his arms two coats quarterly, 1ſt and 4th *Gules, a lion rampant regardant*, or; 2d and 3d, *Argent, three boars heads couped, ſable.* He died poſſeſſed of it in 1742, *ſ. p.* leaving his widow, daughter of Mr. Newington, ſurviving, whoſe truſtees ſold this ſeat after her death, purſuant to the uſes created in Sir Chriſtopher's will, to Mr. John Briſcoe, gent. of London, who rebuilt it on the brow of the hill, at a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from the former ſcite of it, and then alienated it in 1771 to Willſhire Emmett, eſq. who ſerved the office of ſheriff in 1774, and bears for his arms, *Party per pale, azure and ſable; a feſs ermine between three bulls heads caboſhed or*; and now reſides here.

After reſiding here for ſome years, he alienated this ſeat with the eſtate belonging to it, to John May, eſq. of Holborough in Snodland, the preſent owner of it; but it is now uninhabited.

The borough of Wiarton is within the manor of Newington, near Sittingborne; the rents due to which are from the freeholders holding within it, *in free ſocage tenure.*

Holbrook is a reputed manor here, which formerly belonged to a family of the name of Halbrook, as appears by ſeveral old deeds and court-rolls; and bore, as is evident from ſeveral old regiſters of arms, *Azure, a plain croſs, between four mullets or, frettee of the firſt*; who having continued owners of it for ſeveral deſcents, became extinct here about the beginning of king Henry V.'s reign, when it came into the poſſeſſion of William Haut, eſq. of Biſhopſborne, whoſe deſcendant, Sir William Haut, in the reign of Henry VIII. left two daughters and coheirs, of whom Jane, the youngeſt, married Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington-caſtle, who in her right became poſſeſſed of it, and at the latter end of king Edward VI.'s reign, with her conſent alienated, it to Simon Smyth, of Buckland, near Maidſtone, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down

down to John Smyth, eſq whoſe widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Smyth, is now poſſeſſed of it.

BOUGHTON-MOUNT, formerly called Wychden, is a ſeat in this pariſh, ſituated on the oppoſite or northern ſide of Cockſheath, near the pariſh of Looſe.

This ſeat, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was the property of John Alchorne, of Aylesford, ſon of Robert, the grandſon of John de Alchorne, or Ulchorne, of Ulchorne in Uckfield, in Suſſex. They bore for their arms, *Argent, a ſtag's head caboſhed, a chief indented ſable.* In the deſcendants of John Alchorne, the purchaſer of this ſeat, it continued down to his grandſon of the ſame name, who leaving an only daughter Anne, ſhe carried this eſtate in marriage to John Savage, gent. of Lions-inn, deſcended from the Savages, of Blexworth, in Dorſetſhire, a branch of thoſe of Rock Savage, in Cheſhire. He had by her two ſons, Richard, who died on his travels, at Prague, in Bohemia, in 1669; and John Savage, eſq. who ſucceeded to this ſeat in 1726, and was appointed ſheriff of this county, but died on April 9, that year, and was ſucceeded here by his ſon, Richard Savage, eſq. whoſe widow, daughter of Mr. Gulſton, ſurvived him, and died in 1780, upon which this ſeat, according to her late huſband's will, became the property of the two daughters and coheirs of his late ſiſter, married to Benjamin Hubble, eſq. of Town Malling, one of whom is married to Mr. Douce, and they are the preſent poſſeſſors of it; but it is now occupied by E. J. Foote, eſq. of the royal navy.

CHARITIES.

WILLIAM REIFFGINS, a German, gave by will in 1613, 4l. per annum to the poor of this pariſh, for 34 years; 60l. to be veſted in land for the like uſe for ever. A purchaſe was conſequently made of land in the pariſh of Chart Sutton, which is veſted in truſtees, and is now of the annual rent of 3l.

The poor relieved here conſtantly are about thirty in number, caſually twenty-five.

BOUGHTON MONCHENSIE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a ſmall building, having a handſome ſquare tower at the weſt end.

This church was given to the priory of Leeds, ſoon after the foundation of it by Henry de Boſton, and was afterwards appropriated to it, with the licence of the archbiſhop, before the reign of king Richard II. at which time the parſonage of it was valued at ten pounds, and the vicarage of it at four pounds yearly income,[n] both which remained part of the poſſeſſions of the priory till the diſſolution of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it came, with the reſt of the poſſeſſions of that houſe, into the king's hands, who by his dotation-charter in his 33d year, ſettled both the parſonage and advowſon of the church of Boſton on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, part of whoſe poſſeſſions they now remain.

The leſſee of the parſonage is Mrs. Eliz. Smith; but the preſentation to the vicarage, the dean and chapter reſerve to themſelves.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. this parſonage was ſurveyed by order of the ſtate in 1649, when it was returned, that it conſiſted of the ſcite, which, with the tithes, was worth 56l. 3s. 4d. that the glebe land of twenty-nine acres and two roods was worth 8l. 16s. 8d. per annum, both improved rents; which premiſes were let anno 14 Charles I. to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, by the dean and chapter, for twenty one years, at the yearly rent of 13l. 10s. The leſſee to repair the chancel of the pariſh church, and the advowſon was excepted by the dean and chapter out of the leaſe.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 7l. 13s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 15s. 4d. per annum. In 1640 it was valued at ſixty pounds per annum. Communicants, 17[illegible]. In 1649 it was ſurveyed,

[n] Regiſt. of Leeds priory. Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 40.

with

with the parſonage, by order of the ſtate, and valued at thirty pounds per annum, clear yearly income.[o]

The vicar of this church in 1584, but his name I have not found, was deprived for non-conformity; though he was ſo acceptable to the pariſhioners, that they, to the number of fifty-ſeven, made a petition to the lord treaſurer, to reſtore their miniſter to them.

CHURCH OF BOUGHTON MONCHENSIE.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
	Alanus Styward, anno 6 Richard II.[p]
	John Walker, in 1492.[q]
	William Grave, 1503.[q]
	John Hawkſworth, in 1517.[q]
	William Nicholſon, A. M. March 18, 1580.
	Lowen Wood, May 8, 1582.
	Henry Diſborow, obt. 1615.
	Francis Caycott, A. M. June 27, 1615.
	Matthew Rutton, obt. 1686.[r]
	John Cromp, A. M. July, 1686, obt. 1719.[s]
	Samuel Pratt, A. B. Nov. 1719, obt. 1722.
	George Pratt, A. M. June 25, 1722, obt. March 11, 1747.[t]
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter...	*John Lawry*, A. M. 1747, reſigned 1755.[u]
	Peter Wade, A. M. 1755, obt. Sept. 1783.[w]
	James Andrews, 1783, the preſent vicar.

[o] Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-library, vol. xiv.

[p] Cart. Antiq. E. H.

[q] Wills, Prerog. off. Cant.

[r] See Boys's Sandwich, pt. i. p. 273.

[s] Prebendary of Rocheſter.

[t] Alſo curate of Chatham. He was ſon of dean Pratt, and lies buried in Rocheſter cathedral.

[u] And by a diſpenſation in 1747 rector of Lee. He afterwards reſigned this vicarage for that of Aylesford. He was likewiſe a prebendary of Rocheſter, and died in 1773.

[w] In 1768, by diſpenſation rector of Cowling, alſo a minor canon of Rocheſter cathedral.

Juliana de Leyborne had no iſſue by either of her huſbands, all of whom ſhe ſurvived, and died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 41ſt year of king Edward III. on which it eſcheated to the crown; for it appears by the inquiſition taken after her death, that there was no one who could make claim to her eſtates, either by direct, or even by collateral alliance.[y]

The manor of Langley remained in the hands of the crown, till in king Richard II.'s reign it became veſted in John, duke of Lancaſter, and other feoffees, in truſt for the performance of certain religious bequeſts, deviſed in the laſt will of Edward III. who had by his letters patent, in his 22d year, endowed and completed the chapel, which had been begun by his predeceſſor king Stephen, in his palace at Weſtminſter, and made it collegiate, to conſiſt of a dean and canons, and other miniſters, to whom he granted, that they ſhould receive at his treaſury, as much as would ſupply them with neceſſaries, until he could give them as much lands and rents as amounted to five hundred pounds yearly income, which he bound himſelf and his heirs, kings of this realm, to perform; to which likewiſe he, by his laſt will, enjoined the duke of Lancaſter, and others his feoffees.

They, in compliance with the king's will, purchaſed of the crown, in king Richard II.'s reign, this manor of Langley, among others, and then, in the 5th year of it, demiſed it to the dean and canons, to the intent that they being in the actual poſſeſſion of it, the king might grant it to them *in mortmain* for ever. After ſome years the king, through ſome falſe repreſentations made by Sir Simon de Burley, granted it to him and diſpoſſeſſed the dean and canons of it; but he having forfeited his intereſt in it, with his life, in the 10th year of that reign, king Richard II. by his letters patent, in

[y] Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 14. Rot. Eſch. anno 41 Edward III. No. 47. See Leyborne, vol. iv. p. 498.

his

his 12th year, at the petition of the dean and canons, granted to them the rents and profits of this manor among others, to them as a ſufficient endowment, until he ſhould otherwiſe alter it, or provide for them.

After which, by his letters patent in his 21ſt year, he granted it, among other premiſes, to them for ever, for the performance of the religious purpoſes therein mentioned, and in part of the exoneration of the ſum to be taken at his treaſury as before-mentioned.[z]

In which ſituation this manor continued till the 1ſt year of king Edward VI.'s reign, when an act paſſing for the ſurrendry of all free chapels, chantries, &c. this, among others, was ſoon afterwards diſſolved, and the lands and poſſeſſions of it were ſurrendered up into the king's hands. But *the park* here, mentioned before to have been in king Edward the IIId.'s reign in the poſſeſſion of William de Clinton, and his lady Juliana ſeems, after her death, not to have been granted with the manor to the college, but to have remained in the hands of the crown, for king Richard II. in his 11th year granted the cuſtody of this park, then in his hands, to William, archbiſhop of Canterbury, and it appears by the patent rolls in the tower, anno 27 king Henry VI. pt. ii. m. 18, to have been then granted to Thomas Kent and Iſabella his wife, and in the 2d year of king Henry VIII Henry Guildford, eſq. had a grant for life of the parkerſhip of this park. This park was *diſparked* when Lambarde wrote his perambulation about the year 1570.

Soon after which this manor was granted to St. Leger, from which name it was alienated to Lewin Bufkin, of Suſſex, and he obtained of queen Elizabeth new letters patent of it, to be holden *in free ſocage* of the queen, as of her manor of Eſt Greenwich. His deſcendant of the ſame name alienated it, in king

[z] See the confirmations of them anno 1 Edward IV. and 1 Henry IV, and VI. in Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. pt. ii. p. 61 to 67.

James

James I.'s reign, to Nathaniel Powel, of Ewhurſt, in Suſſex, who ſold it to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, whoſe grandſon, Sir Edward Hales, bart. veſted it in truſtees, and they about the year 1670 ſold it to Sir William Drake, of Amerſham, in Buckinghamſhire, the truſtees of whoſe grandſon, Montague Gerard Drake, during his infancy, anno 5 queen Anne, procured an act to enable them to ſell this manor, with Sutton Valence and other eſtates in this neighbourhood in purſuance of which, they conveyed it by ſale, about the year 1708, to Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie, of London, and he died poſſeſſed of it in 1733, leaving two ſons, Freeman and John, who both died *ſ. p.* and two daughters, Anne, married to John Hervey, eſq. afterwards of Beechworth, and Elizabeth. On the death of the two ſons *ſ. p.* each of whom poſſeſſed this manor in ſucceſſion, it came, in 1750, to the two ſiſters and coheirs of their brother John, and on the partition of their inheritance in 1752, it was, among other eſtates in this neighbourhood, allotted to the ſhare of Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, the youngeſt ſiſter, now of Teſton, who continues owner of it.

Brising, uſually called *Briſhing*, is a manor here, which had antiently owners, who took their name from it.

Thomas de Briſſinges held this manor in the beginning of king Edward I.'s reign, as half a knight's fee, of William de Leyburne, as did his deſcendant Sarah de Briſſinges, in the 20th year of Edward III. and then paid aid for it. After this family was extinct here this manor came into the poſſeſſion of the Aſtrys, deſcended originally out of Bedfordſhire. John Aſtry, of which family was Sir Ralph Aſtry, ſon of Geoffry, of Hitchin, in Hertfordſhire, was lord-mayor in 1493. They bore for their arms, *Barry wavy of ſix, argent and azure, on a chief gules three bezants.* One of them held this manor in the beginning of the reign of Edward IV. as did his deſcendant John Aſtry, who died

died poſſeſſed of it in the 35th year of Henry VIII. when it was found that this manor was held of that of Langley, and lay within the fee of the dutchy of Lancaſter.

Soon after which it was alienated to Ralph Bufkin, eſq. whoſe deſcendant Lewin Bufkin, eſq. ſold it in the reign of king James I. to Nathaniel Powel, of Eweherſt, in Suſſex, who reconveyed it back to the ſame family, in the perſon of Lewin Bufkin, the direct deſcendant of Lewin Bufkin firſt-mentioned, and it continued in this name till it came at length to Ralph Bufkin, eſq. who dying without male iſſue, it deſcended to John Martin, eſq. of Stanmer, in Suſſex, as his heir at law. His ſon Denny Martin, eſq. of Salts, in Looſe, married Frances, one of the daughters of Thomas, lord Fairfax, by whom he had five ſons and three daughters. His widow ſurviving him, died here poſſeſſed of it in 1791, on which it deſcended to their eldeſt ſurviving ſon the Rev. Denny Martin Fairfax, now of Leeds caſtle, the preſent owner of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

LANGLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton. There are no parochial charities.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and has always been *an appendage* to the manor, and as ſuch is now in the patronage of Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Teſton, the preſent poſſeſſor of the manor of Langley.

It is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 6l. 19s. 9½d. and the yearly tenths at 13s. 11¾d. In 1640 this rectory was valued at one hundred pounds per annum. Communicants, fifty-five.

The parſonage-houſe was wholly rebuilt in the year 1767, by the late rector Mr. Waterhouſe, who was a good benefactor likewiſe to the church, as has been Mrs. Bouverie, the preſent patron of it.

CHURCH

CHURCH OF LANGLEY.

PATRONS, &c. Or by whom presented.	RECTORS.
Lords of the manor of Langley. ..	*Charles Whalley*, in 1553.[a]
	Henry Wiborne, obt. 1591.
	Thomas Crumpe, April 8, 1591, obt. 1619.
	William Carr, A. M. July 3, 1619, obt. 1625.
	Joseph Bennet, Oct. 2, 1625, resigned 1627.
	Frederick Tilden, A. M. June 14, 1627.
	..... *Tilden*, 1653, ejected in 1662.
	Peter Browne, S. T. P. May 24, 1662, obt. 1692.
	Edward Brown, A. M. March 11, 1692, obt. 1710.
	David Waterhouse, A. M. March 24, 1710, obt. 1758.
	David Waterhouse, A. M. June 24, 1759, obt. Nov. 30, 1780.
	John Kennedy, Dec. 23, 1780, resigned 1789.[b]
	James Edward Gambier, 1789, the present rector.

[a] See Rymer's Fœd. vol. xv. p. 348. He had been canon of Leeds priory at the time of its diſſolution. See Willis's Mitred Abbeys, vol. ii. p. 102.

[b] See vol. v. of this Hiſtory, p. 126, 136.

CHART SUTTON.

THE next pariſh ſouthward from Langley is Chart Sutton, or as it ſhould be more properly called, *Chart by Sutton*, written in Domeſday, *Certh*.

THIS PARISH is but ſmall, the lower or ſouthern ridge of Quarry-hills divides the upper and lower parts of it, the latter is in the diſtrict of the Weald, where the

the country is low and flat, abounding with broad hedge rows, filled with large and ſpreading oaks. It is exceeding wet and miry in winter, the ſoil being a deep ſtiff clay. At the foot of the hill there riſes a ſtream, which having turned a mill, flows from thence ſouthward acroſs this pariſh, till it joins the branch of the Medway juſt above Hereſeed-bridge; on and about the hill the ſoil conſiſts of the quarry-ſtone, thinly covered with a loam, being exceedingly fertile for corn, fruit, and hops. Juſt above the ſummit of the hill is the village and church, with Chart-place adjoining to the church-yard; beyond which northward the ſoil becomes leſs fertile, being a hungry red earth mixed with flints, which continues till it joins the pariſh of Langley.

The mention made in the record of Domeſday of the three arpends of vineyard in this pariſh, ought not to be paſſed by unnoticed here, this being one of ſeveral inſtances of there having been vineyards in this county in very early times. I mean plantations of the grape-vine; for I can by no means acquieſe in the conjecture, that *vineæ* univerſally meant plantations of apples and pears, at leaſt ſo far as relates to this county, where the latter were not introduced at the time, nor for ſome time after the taking of the ſurvey of Domeſday. This opinion is further confirmed by the inſtance of Hamo, biſhop of Rocheſter, who, when Edward II. in his 19th year, was at Bokinfold, in this county, ſent that prince a gift both of wine and grapes, from his vineyard at Halling, near Rocheſter, the epiſcopal palace where he then reſided. Theſe vineyards being likewiſe meaſured by the *arpend*, the ſame meaſure that they uſually were in France, ſhews that when the vine was brought from thence and cultivated here, the ſame kind of meaſure was continued to the plantations of them, a meaſure different from that of any other kind of land. Sir Robert Atkins, in his Hiſtory of Glouceſterſhire, has indeed given two inſtances from records

in the reigns of king John and king Edward II. to prove the contrary, which might ſuit exceeding well with the language of his countrymen, and the bleak county of Glouceſter, where the grape-vine had never been ſeen, and the only beverage was that of the apple and pear, which they had dignified with the appellation of wine. In my memory there have been two exceeding fine vineyards in this county, one at Tunbridge-caſtle, and the other at Hall-place, in Barming, near Maidſtone, from which quantities of exceeding good and well-flavored wine have been produced. This pariſh of Chart, among others in the ſame ſituation, on the ſide of the quarry-hills, is peculiarly adapted to the planting of vines, as well from the warm and nutritive quality of the ſoil, as its genial aſpect, being entirely ſheltered from the north and eaſt, and facing the ſouth on the declivity of the hill.

CHART was part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in that record.

The ſame Adam Fitz Hubert holds of the biſhop of Baieux, Certh. It was taxed at three ſulings. The arable land is eight carucates. In demeſne there is one, and twenty villeins, with five borderers having ſix carucates. There is a church and eight ſervants, and ſix acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of fifty hogs. There are three arpends of vineyard, and a park of beaſts of the foreſt. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth twelve pounds. Alnod Cilt held it.

Four years after the taking the above-mentioned ſurvey, the biſhop of Baieux was diſgraced, and all his eſtates were confiſcated to the crown.

This eſtate afterwards became the property of Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albermarle, likewiſe lord of the manor of Sutton Valence, to which this eſtate ſeems to have been accounted an appendage, and it afterwards

continued with it, in a like ſucceſſion of ownerſhip, down to Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie, who ſoon after his coming into the poſſeſſion of it in 1708, on a ſpot which he had purchaſed of others, on which there was then only a mean cottage, built for himſelf a manſion near the church here, where he afterwards reſided.[c] He died poſſeſſed of it in 1733, leaving two ſons, who both died without iſſue, and alſo two daughters, who became their brother's heirs, and on the partition of their inheritance in 1752, this manor was, among others in this neighbourhood, allotted to the ſhare of the youngeſt, Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, now of Teſton, who continues owner of it.

NORTON-PLACE is an antient manor and manſion in this pariſh, though now and for many years ſince made uſe of only as a farm-houſe, ſituated about half a mile northward from Chart-place. It was antiently the property and reſidence of the family of Norton, to whom it gave name; and in the ſouth windows of this church there were formerly the effigies of Stephen Norton, who lived in king Richard II.'s reign, with his arms, *Argent, a chevron between three creſcents azure*, on his tabard or ſurcoat, and Philipott ſays that he had found in a tournament of the Kentiſh gentlemen one of this name, in a tabard of the arms above-mentioned, encountering one Chriſtmas, of Eaſt Sutton, not far diſtant, who was in like manner habited in a ſurcoat charged with his arms, expreſſive of his name, viz. *Gules, upon a bend ſable, three waſſail bowls, or*; which coat was likewiſe depicted in the ſouth windows of Sutton church. But the partitions inherent to *gavelkind*, ſo diminiſhed the patrimony of this family, that in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and afterwards, they were obliged to ſell off ſeveral parts of it at different times, all which came at length into the poſſeſſion of Sir Ed-

[c] See the ſucceſſion of this manor more at large under Sutton Valence hereafter.

ward Hales, created a baronet in 1611, whoſe grandſon and heir of the ſame name in 1660 purchaſed of the two coheirs of the family of Norton, married to Denne and Underwood, the ſeat itſelf, with the remainder of the land belonging to it, by a fine then levied by them and their huſbands for that purpoſe. His truſtees about the year 1670, conveyed it, with the manor of Sutton Valence and Chart before-mentioned, and ſundry other premiſes, to Sir William Drake, of Amerſham, with which it was in like manner ſold, about the year 1708, to Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie, whoſe daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Teſton, after the death of her two brothers, and a partition of her father's eſtates between herſelf and her ſiſter, is now entitled to it.

WALTERS-FOLLY, in the *den of Ivetigh*, now vulgarly-called THE FOLLY, is an eſtate ſituated in the ſouthern part of this pariſh, about a mile below the ſummit of the hill. It was antiently the property of the family of Ivetigh, antiently ſpelt *Evythye*, who implanted their name on it, as they did on other lands in this pariſh, ſtill called by their name; and though the deeds of this eſtate, which mention them as poſſeſſors of it, do not reach higher than the reign of king Henry VI. yet, undoubtedly, they were owners of it long before.

In the above-mentioned reign, however, this eſtate was alienated by one of that name to Robert Maſcall, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 4th year of Edward IV. By his will, dated Nov. 25, that year, he willed his body to be buried in the church-yard of this pariſh. He deviſed 6s. 8d. towards the pavement of the church, and to the leading of it twenty ſhillings; all his lands and tenements to his wife, for her life, remainder to his ſon Thomas, his daughter Elizabeth mentioned in it. His ſon Thomas Maſcall reſided here, and ſome years after his father's death ſold it to Wm. Lambe, who changed the name of it to Lambden; in his deſcendants, who bore

bore for their arms, *Sable, on a feſs or, two mullets of the field, between three cinquefoils ermine*, it continued till it was at length ſold to Perry, deſcended from thoſe of Worceſterſhire, and it remained in that name till the reign of king Charles I. when Mr. James Perry, of Lenham, dying *ſ. p.* his three daughters, Elizabeth, married to Mr. Thomas Petley, of Filſton; Anne and Mary became his coheirs, and entitled to this eſtate, which they afterwards joined in the ſale of to Walter, who rebuilt the houſe on it, which afterwards gained the name of *Walter's folly*; from one of his deſcendants it was purchaſed, in the reign of queen Anne, by Sir Samuel Ongley, of London, who gave it, together with an eſtate called Elderden, lying at a ſmall diſtance from it, by will to his nephew, Samuel Ongley, eſq. of Old Warden, in Bedfordſhire, in tail: on whoſe death *ſ. p.* this eſtate came by the entail abovementioned to his nephew Robert Henley, eſq. who took upon him the name of Ongley, and was in 1776 created baron Ongley, of Ireland, he died in 1785, and his ſon Robert lord Ongley, is the preſent owner of it.

ALMNERY-GREEN, uſually called *Almery green*, is a place in the weſtern part of this pariſh, where there is an eſtate called *Haddis tenement, alias Almery*, which was for many generations the reſidence of the family of Hadde, called in antient writings likewiſe Le Hadde. Robert Hadde lived here in the reign of king Henry III. as did his ſon William le Hadde in the next reign of Edward I.[d] At length about the latter end of the reign of king Edward III. this family divided into two branches, of which Robert le Hadde, the eldeſt ſon and heir, ſettled at Frinſted, where his deſcendants continued for many generations, and the youngeſt ſon inherited this family ſeat at Chart, which remained in the poſſeſſions of his deſcendants, till Thomas Haddys, in the reign of king Henry VII. leaving two daugh-

[d] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree of Hadd.

ters his coheirs, Margaret married firſt Wm. Wright and afterwards Nicholas Harpur; and Catherine, who married Thomas Bidlake, of Devonſhire, this houſe and eſtate in Chart became the property of his eldeſt daughter Margaret, who entitled her huſband, William Wright, to it; and he, anno 17 Henry VII. conveyed it to Roger Morys, of Ledes, and after ſome intermediate owners, it came into the poſſeſſion of Robert Baker, who in 1612 ſold it to Sir Edward Hales, bart. The truſtees of whoſe grandſon, Sir Edward Hales, bart. ſold it with the manor of Sutton Valence, and his other eſtates in this pariſh, to Sir William Drake, of Amerſham, with which they were in like manner afterwards ſold to Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie; and on the partition between his two daughters and coheirs, theſe premiſes were allotted, with other lands in this and the neighbouring pariſhes, to Anne, the eldeſt daughter, married to John Hervey, eſq. afterwards of Beechworth, who died poſſeſſed of them in 1757, and his grandſon Chriſtopher Hervey, eſq. is now entitled to them.

There is an eſtate on ALMNERY-GREEN, which was formerly part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Ledes, and moſt probably belonging to the almnery of that houſe, gave name to this place. It remained with it till the reign of Henry VIII. when the priory being diſſolved, this eſtate came, with the reſt of the poſſeſſions of it, into the king's hands, and was ſettled by him in the 32d year of his reign, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, who are now entitled to the inheritance of it.

LESTED is an antient ſeat, ſituated on the northern ſide of the high road leading from Cocks-heath to Langley-heath, near Chart-corner.

It was formerly part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Potman, who were poſſeſſed of other eſtates in this pariſh as has been already mentioned, and it continued with them till Sir Richard Potman ſold it to Simon Smyth,

Smyth, gent. who reſided at Buckland, in Maidſtone, whoſe ſon Simon was of Boughton Monchenſie, and had the arms of his family confirmed to him by Camden, clarencieux, in 1650.[e] He left a ſon Simon, of Leſted,[f] whoſe widow afterwards remarried George Curteis, eſq. ſheriff of this county in 1651, when he reſided here in her right.

In the deſcendants of Simon Smyth this eſtate deſcended down to the Rev. John Smyth, vicar of this pariſh, and rector of Haſtingleigh, who died in 1732, and was ſucceeded by his ſon John Smyth, eſq. whoſe widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Smyth ſurvived him, and afterwards reſided in it. She was daughter of Ralph Whitfield, eſq. major of the Welſh fuzileers, by whom he left four daughters, Felicia, Elizabeth, Anna-Maria, and Dorothea, his coheirs, and they or their reſpective heirs are now entitled to it.

CHENEYS-COURT is a reputed manor here, which appears in very early times to have been called Hadeneſham, and to have been in the poſſeſſion of Sir Robert de Shurland, a man of great eminence in the reign of king Edward I. who leaving an only daughter and heir, ſhe carried this eſtate, with other large inheritanbe, in marriage to William de Cheney, of Patrickſborne, in whoſe deſcendants it continued ſo long, that they implanted their name on it; at length Sir Thomas Cheney paſſed it away to John Iden, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 4th year of Henry VIII. and one of his deſcendants, leaving two daughters and coheirs, one of whom married Browne, and the other Barton, the latter of them, in right of his wife, poſſeſſed this eſtate, and in that name it continued till it was at length alienated to Heyward, for Rowland Heyward had the queen's licence, anno 16 Elizabeth, to alienate the meſſuage and manor, called Chenye-court, to John

[e] Guill. Heraldry, p. 77. See vol. iv. p. 304.
[f] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619, and MSS. pedigree of Smyth.

Long, of Tunbridge; after which it paſſed to Wolett, and thence to Jordan, and afterwards to that branch of the family of Fane, who were earls of Weſtmoreland, in which it continued till John, earl of Weſtmoreland, dying in 1762, *ſ. p.* this, among his other eſtates in this county, is at length, by the limitations of his will, come to the right hon. Thomas, lord le Deſpencer, who continues the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

There is the appearance of an old manor-pound belonging to it; but there has been no court held for this manor in the memory of man.

THE FAMILY OF SPENCER once poſſeſſed *an eſtate* in this pariſh, and reſided here for ſome generations; one of whom John Spencer, eſq. was of Chart Sutton, and bore for their arms, *Argent, a feſs engrailed, in chief three lions rampant, gules*, at the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. as was his ſon of the ſame name afterwards. He left two ſons, John and Nicholas, and five daughters, who on their elder brother's death *ſ. p.* became his coheirs; and in the beginning of the reign of king Charles I. joined with their reſpective huſbands in the ſale of their inheritance in this pariſh, to Sir Edward Hales, bart. it afterwards paſſed into the poſſeſſion of Sir William Drake, and then to Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie, in whoſe deſcendants it has continued in like manner as the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh to the preſent time.

CHARITIES.

RICHARD MASCALL gave by will in 1599, for the better ſupport of the poor the yearly ſum of 40s. in land in Aſhford, veſted in Edward Finch Hatton, eſq. and now of the annual produce of 1l. 11s.

JOAN MASCALL gave by will in 1598, for the like uſe, the annual ſum of 10s. in land in this pariſh, veſted in Wm. Spong, and of that annual produce.

The poor conſtantly maintained by this pariſh are yearly in number about thirty-five, caſually about twenty.

CHART

CHART SUTTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which ſtands near the ſummit of the hill, at a very ſmall diſtance from Sutton Valence, is dedicated to St. Michael.

This church has been twice ſet on fire by lightning: the firſt time, a few years ago, when it was fortunately ſoon extinguiſhed; the laſt time was on April 23, 1779, about ſeven o'clock in the morning, when in a dreadful ſtorm of thunder, the lightning ſet fire to the beautiful ſpire ſteeple of it, and in about three hours time burnt that and the whole building to aſhes, excepting the bare walls; ſince which it has been rebuilt from a plan of Mr. Henry Holland, junior, architect, at the coſt of more than 1,300l. collected by a brief throughout the county from houſe to houſe, and a liberal contribution made by the neighbouring gentry and clergy.

The church of Chart was given to the priory of Leeds, ſoon after the foundation of it; the tithes of every kind, ariſing from the demeſnes of the lord of the pariſh of Chart, and alſo twenty ſhillings annual penſion from the church, to be paid by the hands of the rector of it, for ever, for the maintenance of the infirmary of the priory, being aſſigned and granted by archbiſhop Richard to the canons of the priory.[s]

In the year 1320, Walter, archbiſhop of Canterbury, appropriated this church to the priory, and then admitted William de Shoreham to the vicarage of this church; at which time he, by his inſtrument, endowed the vicarage of it as follows: firſt, he ordained and decreed, that every vicar, for the time being, ſhould receive all oblations and obits accruing to the altar of the

[s] See the confirmations of it by the archbiſhops Theobald and Hubert, and by the prior and chapter of Canterbury, in Regiſter of Ledes priory.

church,

church, which the rectors of it uſed of old to receive, together with the tithes of wool, lambs, calves, hogs, hay, flax, hemp, mills, pears, apples, milk, milk-meats, ſheep, and of whatever was planted and ſowed in gardens; and alſo, that the prior and convent ſhould bear and exonerate all burthens, ordinary and extraordinary, happening to the church, as well in books, veſtments, reparations and rebuildings of it, as often as need ſhould require, the procurations of the archdeacon, and other burthens antiently belonging to it, or which might in future be laid on it. And he further decreed, that the prior and convent ſhould aſſign of the ſoil of the church, one acre and an half of land, lying conveniently for a dwelling for the vicar, and ſhould build for him on it a convenient houſe for him and his ſucceſſors to dwell in, and that they ſhould pay to him and his ſucceſſors, as an augmentation of his living, forty ſhillings ſterling yearly.

On the diſſolution of the priory of Leeds, in the reign of Henry VIII. this parſonage, with the advowſon of the vicarage, came into the hands of the crown, and was by the king ſettled in his 32d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, part of whoſe inheritance it remains at this time.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, this parſonage was ſurveyed by order of the ſtate in 1649, when it was returned, that the parſonage, or manor-houſe of the parſonage, conſiſted of a hall, a parlour, kitchen, cellar, buttery, five chambers, three garrets, one dairy-houſe, barn and ſtable, with all the tithes thereto belonging, and the tithes of as much of Sutton-park as lay within the precincts of Chart pariſh, with a court and barn-yard; the whole being valued at fifty pounds per annum, and let by the dean and chapter, anno 26 Charles I. by leaſe to Sir Edward Hales, bart. and Sir John Hales, his ſon, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of 13l 11s. 8d. and one good and ſeaſonable brawn every Chriſtmas, but that the premiſes were

were worth over and above, upon improvement, 67l. 3s. 10d. and that the tenant was bound to repair and maintain the chancel of the parish church. At which time the vicarage was valued at thirty-five pounds clear yearly income.[h]

Among the archives of the dean and chapter of Canterbury is a definitive sentence, made at Cranbrook, anno 1400, concerning the custom and method of taking tithes in this parish, made by Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, in a cause of tithes, between the prior and convent of Ledes and John Hadde, parishioner of this church.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Teston, is the present lessee of this parsonage. The advowson of the vicarage is reserved by the dean and chapter, in their own hands.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 8l. 12s. 8½d. and the yearly tenths at 17s. 3¾d.[i] It is now of the clear yearly certified value of 47l. 11s. 9½d.

In 1640 it was valued at thirty pounds per annum. Communicants, 212.

The Rev. John Smyth, vicar gave by will in 1732, two hundred pounds as an augmentation, to enable it to receive the benefit of the like sum from queen Anne's bounty,[k] with which a small farm of twenty pounds per annum in Ashford parish, has been purchased for the benefit of the vicar and his successors.

CHURCH OF CHART SUTTON.

PATRONS, *Or by whom presented.*	RECTORS.
	Walter de Malden, 1284.[l]
	John Haukinge, the last rector, resigned 1320.[m]

[h] Parl. Surveys, Lambeth library, vol. xiv.
[i] Bacon's Lib. Regis.
[k] Ecc. Thes. p. ix.
[l] Regist. of Ledes priory.
[m] Reg. Roff. p. 209.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter....	*Nicholas Hayman*, reſig. 1591.
	William Hayman, Auguſt 9, 1591.
	John Caſe, May 3, 1619, obt. 1664.
	Peter Browne, A. M. June 1, 1664, reſigned 1687.
	John Smyth, Jan. 1687, obt. Dec. 1732.[n]
	James Hales, A. M. April, 1733.[o]
	Richard Huſband, A. M. reſig. 1769.[p]
	Arnold Carter, 1769, reſigned 1773.[q]
	Henry Jones, A. M. 1773, reſig. 1783.[r]
	John Smith, 1784, the preſent vicar.

n Alſo rector of Haſtingleigh.
o He was before vicar of Berſted.
p Minor canon of Rocheſter.
q And minor canon of Rocheſter.
r Minor canon of Rocheſter. He reſigned this vicarage for Shorne.

TOWN SUTTON, ALIAS SUTTON VALENCE,

IS the next pariſh eaſtward from Chart Sutton. It has the name of Valence from that eminent family, who continued long owners of it, and is called Town Sutton from the largeneſs of the village or town of it, in compariſon of thoſe of the adjoining pariſhes of the ſame name.

THE PARISH of Town Sutton is ſituated much like that of Chart Sutton laſt deſcribed, and the ſoil the ſame, being about the hill, the quarry ſtone covered with a thin loam, fertile for corn, fruit and hops; above it a red earth mixed with flints, and below the hill a ſtiff clay, rendered more prolific by the mixture of marle with it. The village, now a poor mean place, is ſituated a little lower than the ſummit of the quarry hill,

hill, having the church at the weſt end of it; the manor-houſe ſtands on the ſmall green adjoining the church-yard, having an extenſive view over the country ſouthward. The road from Chart to Eaſt Sutton, of but little traffic, leads through the village, and another croſſes it from Langley down the hill into the Weald; at a ſmall diſtance below the village is Sutton-place and the parſonage, and below the foot of the hill the little manor of Forſham, formerly the eſtate of the Auſtens, baronets, beyond which this pariſh extends ſouthward acroſs a low flat country, deep, wet, and miry, till it joins that of Hedcorne; above the village it joins to Kingſwood, part of which is within it.

On the brow of the hill at a ſmall diſtance eaſtward from the village, and adjoining to the parſonage-yard, ſtand the venerable ruins of SUTTON CASTLE, now almoſt covered with ivy, and the branches of the trees which ſprout out from the walls of it. What remains of it ſeems to have been the keep or dungeon of this fortreſs, two ſeparate rooms of which are ſtill in being; and by the cavities where the joiſts have been laid into the walls, appear to have been at leaſt a ſtory higher than they are at preſent. The remains of the walls are more than three feet in thickneſs, and about twenty feet high, and have loop-holes for arrows at proper diſtances; they are compoſed of the quarry ſtone and flint mixed, together with ſome few thin bricks or paving tiles interſperſed throughout. The whole appears to have been exceeding ſtrong, though of very rude workmanſhip; and ſeems to have been built in the time of the barons wars, moſt likely by one of the family of Valence, earls of Pembroke, whilſt the church and its demeſnes yet remained as appendages to their manor of Sutton Valence, and part of their poſſeſſions. It ſtands high, commanding a moſt extenſive view over the adjacent country ſouthward, and was moſt probably made uſe of as a place of defence for the partizans of the lords of it, to make their excurſions

curſions from, and retreat again to, when likely to be overpowered by their enemies. Fronting the title of this volume is a view of it in its preſent ſtate.

Kilburne imagines the ſea came up this valley underneath Sutton caſtle, which he ſuppoſes to have been built when it did ſo; and he ſeems to be confirmed in that opinion by an anchor's having been found not far below it, in the memory of ſome men then living.

A fair is kept in this village yearly, on the day of St. Edmond the king, on the 20th of November.

THIS PLACE was given by William the Conqueror, on his obtaining the crown of this realm, to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux; it having been part of the poſſeſſions of Leofwine, a younger brother of king Harold, who was ſlain fighting on his brother's part, at the fatal battle of Haſtings; accordingly it is thus entered, under the general title of the biſhop's lands, in the ſurvey of Domeſday:

Adam Fitzhubert holds of the biſhop of Baieux, Sudtone. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is ſeven carucates. In demeſne there are two, and eighteen villeins, with five borderers, having four carucates. There is a church and four acres of meadow, and one mill. Wood for fifty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor it was worth twelve pounds, when he received it ten pounds, now fourteen pounds, and yet it pays eighteen pounds. Earl Leuuin held it.

Four years after the taking this ſurvey, the biſhop was diſgraced, and this among the reſt of his poſſeſſions was confiſcated to the crown. After which it became the property of Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albermarle, who in the 5th year of king John's reign, granted this manor, among others in this county, to William Mareſchal, earl of Pembroke, with Alice his daughter, in frank marriage.

In the 10th year of king Henry III. he again married Alianore, the king's ſiſter, and in the 14th year of that reign had a confirmation of this manor, upon condition

dition that Alianore his wife, if ſhe ſurvived him, ſhould enjoy it during her life. He died in the 15th year of that reign, *ſ. p.* on which the ſheriff had the king's precept to deliver poſſeſſion of it to his widow. She afterwards re-married Simon de Montfort, earl of Leiceſter, who was ſlain in the 49th year of that reign, fighting on the part of the diſcontented barons, at the battle of Eveſham; after which, the counteſs Alianore and her children were forced to forſake the realm, and ſhe died ſometime afterwards in the nunnery of Montarges, in France.

In the mean time the four brothers of William, earl of Pembroke, ſucceſſively earls of Pembroke, being dead *ſ. p.* their inheritance became divided between the heirs of their five ſiſters, when the manor of Sutton was allotted among others, to Joane, the ſecond ſiſter, then the widow of Warine de Montchenſie,[r] by whom ſhe had one ſon William, and a daughter Joane, married to William de Valence, the king's half brother, who in her right became poſſeſſed of it. He died in the 23d year of king Edward I. leaving Joane his widow ſurviving, who had this manor aſſigned to her as part of her dowry, when it was found to be held of the king *in capite*, and that it was of the king's marechalſy. She left one ſon, Adomar, or Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, and three daughters,

Aymer, earl of Pembroke, the ſon, on her death became poſſeſſed of this manor. He was murdered in France in the 17th year of king Edward II. being then poſſeſſed of this manor of Sutton Valence, for ſo it was now uſually called, and leaving no iſſue by either of his wives, for he was three times married, his three ſiſters above-mentioned became his coheirs; of whom Iſabel married to John de Haſtings, of Ber-

[r] See Swanſcombe, vol. ii. of this hiſtory, p. 405.

gavenny,

gavenny, ſeems to have had this manor allotted to her, as part of her ſhare in the inheritance. In conſequence of this match, the arms of Haſtings quartering Valence, were put up by ſome of his deſcendants on the roof of Canterbury cloyſters, where they now remain. She was then a widow, her huſband having deceaſed in the 6th year of that reign, leaving John de Haſtings his ſon and heir; who likewiſe died anno 18 Edward II. leaving no iſſue by Juliana de Leyborne his then wife. But by his former wife he had one ſon, Lawrence, who was in the 13th year of king Edward III. made earl of Pembroke, by reaſon of his deſcent from Iſabel, the eldeſt ſiſter and coheir of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke; and he died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 22d year of that reign, as did his grandſon John, earl of Pembroke, *ſ. p.* in the 13th year of king Richard II. about which time I find this manor ſtiled in ſome records the manor of *Sutton Haſtings*, which name however it ſoon dropped, and reſumed its former one of Valence. Philippa, counteſs of Pembroke, ſurvived her huſband, and afterwards re-married Richard Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, and died in the poſſeſſion of this manor in the 2d year of king Henry IV. ſhe then bearing the title of counteſs of Pembroke, when Reginald lord Grey, of Ruthin, became entitled to it, as next of kin, and heir of Aymer, earl of Pembroke; and as ſuch, at the coronation of king Henry the IVth, he carried the great golden ſpurs. After which being taken priſoner in Wales, by Owen Glendower, he was obliged to give ten thouſand marcs for his ranſom. To raiſe which, king Henry in his 4th year, granted licence to Robert Braybrooke, biſhop of London, and others, feoffees of ſeveral of Reginald's lordſhips, to ſell this manor among others towards the raiſing of that ſum.

They ſold it ſoon afterwards, as it ſhould ſeem, to St. Leger, for Juliana, widow of Thomas St. Leger, eſq. of Otterden, died poſſeſſed of it in the 5th year of

of the next regin of king Henry the Vth. Soon after which it became the property of William Clifford, eſq. ſon of Sir Lewis Clifford, deſcended from the Cliffords, of Clifford-caſtle, in Herefordſhire, who bore for his arms, *Chequy or and azure on a feſs gules, a creſcent for difference, all within a bordure argent.* He was ſheriff in the 4th and 13th years of king Henry the VIth, and died three years afterwards, leaving by Eleanor his wife, ſiſter and ſole heir of Arnold Savage, eſq. of Bobbing, two ſons, Lewis and John, of whom Lewis Clifford, the eldeſt ſon, died in his life time, leaving a ſon Alexander, who was of Bobbing, eſq. and on his mother's death, in the 19th year of Henry VI. ſucceeded to this manor. After which it continued in his name down to his grandſon Nicholas Clifford, who leaving a ſole daughter and heir, Mildred, ſhe carried it in marriage to Sir George Harpur,[t] who reſided at Sutton Valence, where he kept his ſhrievalty in the 2d year of king Edward VI. and in the windows of the manor houſe were formerly the coats of arms of the family of Clifford, and their ſeveral matches; and among others of Clifford impaling Culpeper, Savage, and Bourne. On the gateway was carved Clifford impaling Iſley, quartering Fremingham, and a ſhield of Iſley quartering Fremingham. In the windows of the hall was the coat of Harpur, *Argent, a lion rampant ſable, within a bordure engrailed of the ſecond,* with all its quarterings, and the ſame impaling Gaynsford, and a coat, *Argent, a ſaltier gules, within a border ſable, Bezantee,* for De La Poyle. After his death ſhe remarried Sir Edward Moore, who afterwards ſettled at Melleſont, in Ireland. By her firſt huſband ſhe left a ſon Edward, who was knighted, and by her ſecond ſhe hau ſeveral children.

[t] See Rot. Eſch. ejus an. 36, Henry VIII. pt. 19. Viſtn. co, Kent, anno 1574. Pedigree Harpur.

She ſeems to have entitled both her huſbands to the poſſeſſion of this manor during her life, after which it became the property of her ſon Sir Edward Harpur, who alienated it to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1654, upon which it came to his grandſon and heir, Sir Edward Hales, bart. whoſe truſtees ſold it in 1670 to Sir William Drake, of Agmondeſham, in Buckinghamſhire, and he ſettled part of it in jointure in 1675, on Elizabeth his wife, daughter, and at length ſole heir of William Montague, chief baron of the exchequer, their ſon, Montague Drake, eſq. of Agmondeſham, left by Mary, ſole daughter and heir of Sir John Gerrard, bart. of Hertfordſhire, a ſon Montague Gerrard Drake, whoſe truſtees, during his infancy, anno 5 queen Anne, having procured an act for that purpoſe, in 1708 ſold this manor with the demeſnes, and other eſtates in this and the adjoining pariſhes (excepting ſuch of them as were in jointure to dame Elizabeth, widow of Sir William Drake as above mentioned, then the wife of Samuel Trotman, eſq. of Siſton, in Glouceſterſhire) to Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie, of Chart Sutton,* who afterwards in 1720, purchaſed of Montague Gerrard Drake, eſq. the remainder of his eſtates which had been ſettled in jointure on his mother as above-mentioned, and ſo became poſſeſſed of the entire fee of them. He died poſſeſſed of this manor in 1733, and was buried at Beechworth, in Surry. Since which this manor has deſcended in like manner as thoſe of Langley and Chart before deſcribed, to his youngeſt daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, now of Teſton, the preſent owner of it. A court leet and court baron is held for this manor.

But though this manor, on the diviſion of Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie's eſtates between his two daughters and coheirs, after the death of their two brothers, who

* Harris's Hiſt. of Kent, p. 307. See more of this family under Teſton, p. 134.

both

both died *ſ. p.* was allotted to the youngeſt, Elizabeth, yet ſeveral farms and lands in the out-parts of this and the adjoining pariſhes, were allotted to the eldeſt daughter Anne, married to John Hervey, eſq. afterwards of Beechworth, which on his death deſcended to his only ſon Chriſtopher Hervey, eſq.

It ſhould be noticed here, that in the 10th year of king George II. an act paſſed enabling the family of Deſbouverie to uſe the ſurname of Bouverie only, in purſuance to the deſire of Jacob Deſbouverie, eſq. and Sir Chriſtopher Deſbouverie, deceaſed.

SUTTON-PLACE, alias CLENKARDS, is a ſeat in this pariſh, ſituated about the middle of the hill, at a ſmall diſtance ſouth-eaſtward of the town.

In the reign of king Charles II. it was the eſtate and reſidence of Archibald Clenkard, eſq. who kept his ſhrievalty here in the year 1682, and the two ſucceeding years, bearing for his arms, *Argent, a bend ſable cotized and charged with three griffins heads.* After his death it paſſed into the poſſeſſion of Liveſey, from which name it was ſold to John Payne, eſq. of London, one of the directors of the Eaſt-India company, who bore for his arms, *Argent, a chevron vaire or, and azure between three lions rampant of the laſt.* He died poſſeſſed of it in 1747, leaving three ſons, of whom John the eldeſt, was a merchant of London, and was high ſheriff of Leiceſterſhire in 1738; and Edward the youngeſt, to whom by his will he gave this eſtate, was of London, eſq. and a director of the bank. He leſſened this manſion, which was before very large, and made other conſiderable improvements in this eſtate. He died in 1794, ſince which it has been ſold by his heirs.

CHARITIES.

WILLIAM LAMBE, ſometime a gentleman of the chapel to king Henry VIII. and a great favorite of that prince, was of the company of cloth-workers, in London, and among many other extenſive charities, out of his great love for learning, and

ſor the place where he was born, erected in 1578, at his own proper coſts and charges, *a free grammar ſchool*, in this pariſh, for the education and inſtruction of youth, allowing yearly to the maſter 20l. and 10l. yearly to the uſher from time to time, as either place ſhould be ſupplied by ſucceſſion, and to the former a good houſe and garden to reſide in.

Mr. George Maplesden, in 1713, left by will 5l. per annum for an Engliſh uſher, to be appointed by the maſter of the ſchool.

There are likewise *two exhibitions* of ten pounds per annum each, given to St. John's college, in Cambridge, by will in 1720, by the *Rev. Francis Robbins*, B. D. who had been fellow of that college, for the benefit of two ſcholars educated at this ſchool.

The *Rev. John Griffin* is the *preſent maſter* of this ſchool.

Mr. William Lambe, above-mentioned, alſo founded in the village of Town Sutton ſix alms-houſes, having an orchard and gardens to them, for the benefit of ſix poor inhabitants of this pariſh, and allotted the ſum of ten pounds to be divided among them yearly, and entruſted the company of cloth-workers with the eſtates and direction of theſe charities. By ſome means 6l. of the above ſum has been ſome-time with-held, and 4l. only is paid yearly. The poor inhabitants are uſually appointed by the maſter of the ſchool. The arms of the founder, being *a feſs between three cinquefoils*, are carved in ſtone on the front of the alms-houſes.

The Rev. Mr. Robbins above-mentioned, left likewiſe 3l. to be paid yearly on March 11, to the poor of this pariſh, by the church-wardens, veſted in Mrs. Felicia and Elizabeth Smith.

Town Sutton is within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton; to which it was once ſo conſiderable as to give name.

The church which ſtands at a ſmall diſtance weſtward from the village, is dedicated to St. Mary. It is a handſome church, the ſteeple ſtands on the north ſide of it, and had a high ſpire on it formerly, the upper half of which having been burnt down by lightning, it is at that part flat and covered with lead.

This church was antiently an appendage to the manor of Sutton Valence, in which ſtate it continued down to John de Haſtings, earl of Pembroke, lord of that

that manor, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 49th year of king Edward II. as appears by the eſcheat rolls of that year. Soon after which it muſt have paſſed into the poſſeſſion of the priory of Leeds; for in the 2d year of the next reign of king Richard II. that king granted his licence to the above-mentioned priory, to appropriate this church; and it was confirmed to the priory by patents of the 18th and 20th years of king Henry VI. when at the requeſt of the prior and canons there, the pariſh church of Eaſt Sutton, likewiſe of their patronage, was *united* to this church, to which it has been ever ſince eſteemed as a chapel.

On the diſſolution of the priory of Leeds in the reign of king Henry VIII. this parſonage, with the advowſon of the vicarage, and the chapel of Eaſt Sutton annexed, came into the hands of the crown, where it did not continue long, for the king ſettled it in his 32d year on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, part of whoſe inheritance it ſtill remains.

The parſonage, with *the manor* annexed to it, has been for many years held in leaſe from the dean and chapter, by the family of Payne. Edward Payne, eſq. of London, who has been already mentioned before, died in 1794, poſſeſſed of the leaſe of it, and his heirs are now entitled to it.

The advowſon of the vicarage is reſerved by the dean and chapter in their own hands.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles the Iſt, this parſonage was ſurveyed by order of the ſtate in 1649, when it was returned, that the parſonage of Sutton Valence, with the rights of it, and the manor or parſonage-houſe, three barns, a ſtable, and ſeveral other neceſſary outhouſes, with a yard, garden and orchard, containing by eſtimation two roods, together with the tithes, were altogether worth ſixty pounds per annum. All which were let by the late dean and chapter, anno 16 Charles I. to Thomas Shipton, gent. for twenty-one years, at the

yearly rent of fourteen pounds, and one quarter of wheat, two quarters of oats, and one good brawn every Chriſtmas; which rent was valued at 18l. 16s. and that the premiſes were worth upon improvement over and above the ſaid rent 56l. 2s. per annum.

The vicarage of Sutton Valence is endowed with all tithes whatſoever, except corn and hay. It is valued in the king's books at 7l. 9s. 7d. and the yearly tenths at 14s. 11½d.

In 1640 it was valued at ſeventy-three pounds. Communicants, 226.

The vicar of Sutton Valence ſerves the cure of the church of Eaſt Sutton, as a chapel annexed to it; and as ſuch is entitled to the vicarial tithes of that pariſh in right of his vicarage, he being preſented and inducted to the vicarage of Sutton Valence, with the chapel of Eaſt Sutton annexed.

CHURCH OF TOWN SUTTON.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
	Gilbert.[w]
	VICARS.
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter....	*David Smithe*, ind. Nov. 7, 1566.
	Robert Wells, May 1568, obt. Jan. 21, 1573.
	John Baker, March 18, 1580, obt. 1588.
	Thomas Compton, Dec. 3, 1588, obt.
	Thomas Sandford, A. B. May 22, 1606, reſigned 1614.
	Edmund Henſhaw, A. M. March 19, 1614.
	Robert Smith, A. M. June 15, 1641, vacant by reſignation.
	Hezekiah Holland, 1653.[x]

[w] Comber's Vindication of Tithes, vol. i. p. 234.

[x] Alſo rector of Crundal.

PATRONS

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Dean and chapter of Rocheſter.....	*Thomas Pollington*, Auguſt 7, 1661, reſigned 1666.
	James Browne, April 11, 1666, obt. 1679.
	John Rumney, A. M. April 8, 1680, obt. 1698.
	John Gohier, A. M. October 7, 1698, obt. 1713.
	Samuel Pratt, A. B. Nov. 9, 1713, reſig. 1720.
	George Pratt, A. M. April 5, 1720, reſig. 1722.
	Daniel Pratt, A. M. Nov. 5, 1722, obt. 1723.
	Culpeper Savage, A. M. Nov. 20, 1723, reſig 1747.[y]
	Samuel Venner, A. B. July 1747, obt. 1764.
	Nicholas Browne, ind. March, 1765, the preſent vicar.

[y] Before vicar of Stone, in Oxney. He reſigned this vicarage for that of Eaſtry.

EAST SUTTON.

THE next pariſh eaſtward from Town Sutton is Eaſt Sutton, having the appellation of Eaſt from its ſituation eaſtward of the two adjoining pariſhes of Sutton Valence and Chart Sutton, though that of Sutton, near Dover, is likewiſe frequently ſtiled Eaſt Sutton, from its ſituation in the eaſtern part of this county.

IT is a ſmall pariſh, and would be but little known or frequented was it not for the reſidence of the Filmer family in it. It is much the ſame ſituation and ſoil as the laſt deſcribed pariſh of Sutton Valence, the quarry hills croſſing the middle of it; the church ſtands near the ſummit of the hill, at the back of Eaſt Sutton-place, which is pleaſantly ſituated, having a

moſt beautiful and extenſive view ſouthward, the park lying before it, which is well cloathed with trees both of aſh and oak, and has a fine piece of water in ſight of the houſe in the lower part of it; about half a mile ſouth-eaſt from the manor houſe, about the middle of the hill, is Little Charlton, which has ſtill the appearance of a gentleman's ſeat, having ſeveral good rooms in it well ornamented with ſtucco, fret-work, &c. and every convenience requiſite for a gentleman's family, and the hoſpitality of former times; from the top of the hill ſouthward it is within the Weald, a low, flat and miry country. On the other ſide, above the church, from the ſhade of the quantities of trees which ſpread thickly over it, that part has an unpleaſant and gloomy aſpect. In this part is Chartway-ſtreet, the only village in this pariſh, the ſouthern ſide of which only, on which however almoſt all the houſes are built, being in this pariſh and its northern boundary, the other ſide of it being in Bromfield; the reſt of the houſes in Eaſt Sutton, excepting the two ſmall hamlets of Friday and Sunday-ſtreets, being interſperſed at various diſtances throughout it.

THIS PLACE was part of thoſe poſſeſſions with which Odo, biſhop of Baieux, was enriched by his half-brother William the Conqueror, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday:

The ſame Adam Fitzhubert holds of the biſhop Sudtone. It was taxed at one ſuling and an half. The arable land is eight carucates. In demeſne there are two, and fifteen villeins, with nine borderers, having four carucates. There is a church and ten ſervants, and eight acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of fifty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth ten pounds, now twelve pounds, and yet it pays eighteen pounds. Leuenot held it of king Edward.

On

On the biſhop's diſgrace, which happened in 1084, about four years after the taking the above ſurvey, this among the reſt of his eſtates became confiſcated to the crown.

In the reign of Henry the IIId, John de Salario held East Sutton[z] of Simon de Montfort, earl of Leiceſter; Geffry de Martel held it in the latter end of that reign, and the beginning of the reign of king Edward the Iſt, his ſucceſſor was Adam de Martel, whoſe right to it was allowed againſt the king before the juſtices itinerant, in the 21ſt year of Edward I. Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, was in poſſeſſion of it in the beginning of the next reign of king Edward II. and died in the 17th year of it *ſ. p.* upon which his three ſiſters became his coheirs; of whom Iſabel, married to John de Haſtings, of Bergavenny, ſeems to have had this manor allotted to her as part of her ſhare in the inheritance, and in his deſcendants, earls of Pembroke, it continued down in like manner as Sutton Valence manor before deſcribed, till on their failure of iſſue in king Henry the IVth's reign, Reginald, lord Grey, of Ruthyn, became entitled to it as next of kin and heir of Aymer, earl of Pembroke, but on his being taken priſoner by Owen Glendower, in Wales, king Henry IV. in his 4th year, granted licence to Robert Braybrook, biſhop of London, and others, then feoffees of his ſeveral lordſhips, to ſell this manor among others, towards raiſing a ſum of money for his ranſom. They ſold it to Richard Brigge Lancaſter, king at arms, who alienated it in the third year of king Henry V. to Thomas Buttiller and Thomas Bank. After which it paſſed into the family of Darrell, one of whom, Sir Richard de Darrel, poſſeſſed it in the reign of king Edward IV.

[z] Harris's Hiſtory of Kent, p. 306, from the evidence of the Filmer family.

In

In the firſt year of king Henry VIII. John York, eſq. of Ramſbury, in Wiltſhire, was owner of it, and in the 6th year of that reign paſſed it away to Richard Chetham, prior of the priory of Ledes, and it ſeems to have been for the uſe of his convent by the receipt in the exchequer, anno 8 Henry VIII. Nevertheleſs they had diveſted themſelves of the poſſeſſion of it before the 20th year of that reign, when Sir Henry Guldeford, knight of the garter, and comptroller of the king's houſhold, owned it. He died *ſ. p.* in the 23d year of that reign, and his heirs ſold this manor the next year to Richard Hill, eſq. who in the 29th year of it alienated it to Thomas, lord Cromwell, and he ſoon afterwards exchanged it with the crown for other lands, where the fee of it remained till the king in his 37th year granted it, with its appurtenances, to John Tufton, and Stephen Reaves, to hold *in capite*, and they that year alienated it to Thomas Argall, who bore for his arms, *Party per feſs, argent and vert, a pale counterchanged; three lions heads eraſed gules.* He procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled* by the act of the 2d and 3d of Edward VI. and died poſſeſſed of it in the 6th year of that reign.

His ſon and heir, Richard Argall, eſq. had by Mary his wife, daughter of Sir Reginald Scott, of Scots-hall, a ſon John, and two daughters, Catherine, wife of Ralph Bathurſt, eſq. of Horton Kirkby, and Elizabeth, of Sir Edward Filmer, of Little Charleton, in this pariſh, John Argall, eſq. the ſon, was of Colcheſter, in Eſſex, and in the 8th year of king James I. ſold this manor to his brother-in-law, Sir Edward Filmer before-mentioned, who upon that removed from his ſeat of Little Charleton to the manor houſe of Eaſt Sutton, called Eaſt Sutton-place, where he kept his ſhrievalty in the 13th year of that reign. The family of Filmer was originally ſeated at the manor of Herſt, in the pariſh of Otterden, where Robert

Robert Filmer lived in king Edward the IId.'s reign. His deſcendants continued there till Robert Filmer, ſon of James, removed to the manor of Little Charlton, in this pariſh, which he had purchaſed of the family of Kempe, and had built a ſeat on it for his reſidence, it was antiently called Charlton-court, and had owners of its own name in the reigns of king Edward II. and III.[a] He was one of the prothonotaries of the common pleas for twenty years in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and to him Cooke, clarencieux, in 1570, granted, or rather confirmed the arms of the family, viz. *Sable, three bars, and as many cinquefoils in chief, or.* He died in 1585, and was buried in this church, which has ever ſince continued the burial-place of the family. He was the father of Sir Edward Filmer, the purchaſer of this manor of Eaſt Sutton as before mentioned.[b]

He had by his wife before mentioned, nine ſons and nine daughters, and died in 1629, being ſucceeded here by Robert, his eldeſt ſon, who was knighted by king Charles I. and reſided at Eaſt Sutton. He employed his pen in defence of the rights of the crown. He was educated at Trinity-college, Cambridge, and wrote the Anarchy of a limited or mixed Monarchy; *Patriarcha*, or the natural Power of Kings; the Freeholder's grand Inqueſt, and Reflections concerning the Original of Government, beſides ſeveral other tracts, all which were publiſhed after his death by his ſon. He was a great ſufferer during the civil wars of king Charles I.'s reign, having his houſe here plundered ten times by the rebels, and himſelf impriſoned in Leeds-caſtle for his loyalty. He died in 1653, having married Anne, daughter and coheir of Martin Heton, biſhop of Ely, by which an addition of fortune, as well as of arms, accrued to him.

[a] Mr. Petit Fœdary of Kent his book. Harris's Hiſtory of Kent, p. 307.

[b] Viſitation of Kent, 1574 and 1619. Pedigr. Filmer.

He

He was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Sir Edward Filmer, gentleman of the privy chamber both to king Charles I. and II. who dying unmarried at Paris, in 1668, was ſucceeded in his eſtates by his next brother, Robert Filmer, eſq. barriſter-at-law, of Gray's inn, who, in conſideration of his father's ſufferings and loyalty to Charles I. was, on Dec. 24, 1674, created a baronet. He reſided at Eaſt Sutton-place, which, as well as the park round it, he greatly augmented and improved, incloſing the whole with a ſtone wall. He died in 1675, leaving ſeveral ſons and daughters, of whom Sir Robert Filmer, bart. his eldeſt ſon and ſucceſſor, reſided here, and in 1689, being the laſt of king James II. ſerved the office of ſheriff. He died in 1720, having married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir William Beverſham, of Holbrook-hall, in Suffolk, one of the maſters in chancery,[c] by whom he had ſeveral ſons and daughters. Beverſham Filmer, eſq. one of the younger ſons, was of Lincoln's-inn, barriſter-at law, maſter of the *Niſi Prius* office in B. R. and one of the moſt able conveyancers this kingdom has produced. He died unmarried in 1763, and was buried in this church, having by his laſt will bequeathed his eſtates in this county to his nephew, Sir John Filmer, bart.

Sir Edward Filmer, bart. the eldeſt ſon, reſided at Eaſt Sutton, and married Mary, daughter of John Wallis, eſq. of Oxfordſhire, only ſon and heir of the learned John Wallis, D. D. Savilian profeſſor of geometry at Oxford, and F. R. S. by whom he had twenty children, viz. eleven ſons and nine daughters; of the former, John, the eldeſt, ſucceeded him in title and eſtate; Beverſham married Dorothea, ſecond daughter of William Henley, eſq. late of Gore-court; ſhe died in 1793, *ſ. p.* Edmund is rector of Crundall,

[c] See Morant's Eſſex, vol. ii. p. 368. Sir Wm. Beverſham died in 1689, and was buried in this church.

and

and married Arabella-Chriſtiana, the eldeſt daughter of Sir John Honywood, bart. by his firſt lady, by whom he has had ſix ſons and two daughters; Francis, barriſter-at-law, of Lincoln's-inn, is unmarried. Of the daughters, Dorothy, married the late Sir John Honywood, bart. He died in 1755, æt. 72, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon, Sir John Filmer, bart. of Eaſt Sutton, who died in 1797, æt. 84, and was buried with his anceſtors in this church. He married Dorothy, daughter of the Rev. Julius Deedes, prebendary of Canterbury, by whom he had no iſſue. She ſurvived him, but the title, and this manor and ſeat, together with the reſt of his poſſeſſions in this pariſh, devolved to his next brother and heir, now Sir Beverſham Filmer, bart. who reſides here, and is the preſent owner of them.

BOYTON is a manor in this pariſh, which formerly belonged to the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, and continued ſo till the diſſolution of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was, together with the reſt of the poſſeſſions of the priory, ſurrendered into the king's hands, who by his dotation-charter in his 33d year, ſettled this manor on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whoſe poſſeſſions it ſtill remains.

The leſſee of this manor, in the year 1645, was Sir Robert Stapleton, bart. who held it under the ruling powers of that time, the dean and chapter being diſſolved, at the yearly rent of 5l. 6s. 8d. and one pound for entertainment money to the receiver of the church.

The family of Hope have been leſſees of it for many years, the preſent leſſee being Mrs. Sarah Hope.

CHARITIES.

STEPHEN PENDE, gent. of this pariſh, by deed, anno 23 Henry VIII. gave a meſſuage, barn, garden, and two croſts of land, containing four acres in this pariſh; and GEORGE USMER, gent. of this pariſh, by deed, anno 6 Elizabeth, gave two pieces of land, containing three acres, in this pariſh; and by his

his will, anno 8 Elizabeth, gave three pieces of land, called Randalls and Lakefield, the latter in Town Sutton, and the former in this parish, all which were given for the habitation and maintenance of the curate of this parish, but if such curate should not reside in the said messuage, then the churchwardens were to receive the rents of all the before-mentioned premises, and apply them towards the repairs of the church. And he gave by will a piece of land called Park-corner, otherwise Lodge-land, in this parish, to the intent that the churchwardens should receive the rents, and, with the assent and advice of the inhabitants, yearly distribute the same amongst the poor on Good Friday and All Holland day, by equal proportion. And he further willed, that the churchwardens should receive the rents of two pieces of land in this parish, called Huntings, to be by them bestowed, with the advice of the inhabitants, in bread, cheese, and beer, among the poor of it on St. George's and Christmas day, yearly.

Dame Elizabeth Filmer, widow of Sir Edward Filmer, in 1638, gave 100l. to the use of the poor of this parish.

Mrs. Susan Watts, of this parish, widow, gave 50l. for the use of the poor, and directed, that poor antient widows should be first preferred, and most relieved, according to their necessities.

The above-mentioned sums of 100l. and 50l. having been many years placed out at interest upon a mortgage, were, in 1722, together with 10l. raised by subscription among the parishioners, and 10l. given by Sir Edward Filmer, bart. and the further sum of 25l. raised by the sale of timber growing on the lands called Huntings and Lodge-lands above-mentioned, amounting in all to 195l. laid out in the purchase of a messuage, barn, orchard, and six pieces of land in Hedcorn, upon the den of Hockenbury, purchased of one William Fleet, and now in the occupation of John Croucher, at the yearly rent of 10l. 1s. 8d. to the uses following: to pay 40s. a year to the curate of this parish, so long as he inhabited here, and demeaned himself well, and diligently served the cure, and preached four quarterly sermons as therein directed; but in default of such residency, &c. to pay one moiety of the said 40s. towards the repairs of the church, and the other moiety, together with all the residue of the rents of the said Hockenbury farm, to the use of the poor.

Sir Robert Filmer, bart. gave by will in 1703, a piece of land, the yearly produce of it to be given in wheat, among eight of the poorest inhabitants at Christmas, vested in Sir John Filmer, bart. and now of the annual produce of 20s.

The number of poor relieved constantly are about twenty-five, casually about ten.

East

EAST SUTTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It is not a large building, and has a ſquare tower at the weſt end of it. It is kept remarkably neat, and in good repair. The grave-ſtones of the Filmers in it are a complete ſeries of this family, from the time of their coming to reſide in this parish. All the braſſes on them are perfect. The grave-ſtone over Sir Edward Filmer, who died in 1629, within the altar rails, is very curious, having an entire ſheet of copper over it, with the portraits of himſelf, his wife, and his numerous iſſue, engraved on it, and their names reſpectively over them, and the coats of arms and quarterings, belonging to him and his wife, at the corners of it. There is a neat buſt in white marble of the late Sir Edward Filmer, bart. who died in 1755, with an inſcription to his memory againſt the wall, over the pew where the family ſit.

The church of Sutton was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Leeds, to which it was appropriated, and the duty of it was firſt ſerved by a chaplain, appointed by the prior and convent, at whoſe requeſt it was afterwards united to the adjoining church of Town Sutton, of their patronage likewiſe, to which it has been ever ſince eſteemed as a chapel.

On the diſſolution of the priory of Leeds, in the reign of Henry VIII the parſonage appropriate of Eaſt Sutton came into the hands of the crown, as did likewiſe the patronage of the church of Town Sutton, with the chapel of Eaſt Sutton annexed, where they did not continue long; for the king ſettled them both, in his 32d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom they remain at this time.

The parſonage has been for many years held in leaſe, by the family of Filmer; the preſent intereſt of

of the leaſe being veſted in Sir Beverſham Filmer, baronet.

The vicar of Town Sutton ſerves the cure of this church, as a chapel annexed to it, and as ſuch is entitled to the vicarial profits of this pariſh, in right of his vicarage.

The church of Eaſt Sutton is not valued in the king's books, being included in that of Town Sutton.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, after the death of Charles I. this parſonage was ſurveyed in 1649, when it was returned, that the parſonage, late belonging to the late dean and chapter of Rocheſter, conſiſted of a parſonage houſe, and all tithes, and the glebe land lying together, containing forty-three acres and two roods, at the improved rent of ſeventy-five pounds; alſo ſeventeen acres more of glebe land, let at fifteen pounds per annum; all which premiſes were let by the late dean and chapter, anno 13 Charles I. to Sir Robert Filmer, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of ten pounds, and of two good capons, or four ſhillings in money, ſo there remained a clear rent of 79l. 16s. per annum; and that the leſſee repaired the chancel of this church; out of which leaſe the vicarage was excepted, then worth twenty pounds per annum.

The leſſee of the parſonage claims the tithes of all corn, *hops*, and graſs, growing in this pariſh. In the reign of queen Anne theſe tithes were eſtimated at upwards of eighty pounds per annum; beſides which, the glebe land belonging to it, was let at fifty pounds per annum.

In 1648 the communicants of this pariſh were one hundred and thirty.

The ſmall tithes and other emoluments of this benefice, in the beginning of queen Anne's reign were eſtimated at eighteen pounds per annum, there being no glebe land belonging to it.

The

The land given and deviſed by Stephen Pende and George Ulmer, as before mentioned, was worth ten pounds per annum, in the above reign, and ſeems to have been intended for the better performance of divine ſervice in this church every Sunday; before which, the vicar of Sutton Valence uſed to perform it here but once or twice in a quarter of a year. From the year 1648 to 1680, the pariſhioners beſtowed the above income on the repairs of the church; but ſince that time, the vicar of Sutton Valence has generally had it, in conſequence of which, he preaches here and at Sutton Valence alternately on a Sunday, morning and afternoon.

A liſt of the vicars of Sutton Valence, or Town Sutton, with this chapel of Eaſt Sutton annexed, has been already given in the deſcription of that pariſh.

ULCOMB

LIES the next pariſh eaſtward from Eaſt Sutton. It is uſually pronounced *Uckham*, and is variouſly ſpelt in antient records; in Domeſday it is written *Olecumbe*, in others *Wulcombe*, and of late *Ulcomb*.

Part of this pariſh below, or to the ſouthward of the hill, adjoining to Boughton Malherb, is in the diviſion of Eaſt Kent; that is, ſo much of it as is eaſtward of a line drawn from the eaſt end of Boughton church, to the eaſt end of the church of Hedcorn.

Part of this pariſh, containing the borough of Kingſnorth, is in the lath of Scray and hundred of Faverſham, it having formerly belonged to the abbey there.[a]

THE PARISH of Ulcombe is about three miles from north to ſouth, and two miles in width. It is rather an obſcure and unfrequented place, having but little thoroughfare; the quarry-hills croſs it, on the

[a] See Kilburne's Survey, p. 278.

ſummit of which is the village, with Ulcombe-place, and the parſonage within it; here the rock ſtone lies much nearer the ſurface than in the laſt-deſcribed parithes. To the northward it extends into the large coppice of Kingſwood, which joins almoſt up to the village of Ulcombe; on the ſouth ſide of the quarry-hill there are three houſes of ſome account, ſtanding at ſome diſtance ſeparate from each other, all which for ſome time belonged to the family of Belcher, who have been for ſome generations ſeated in this pariſh. Theſe Belchers, of Ulcombe, were deſcended from William Belcher, rector of this pariſh, who died in 1739, and bore for his arms, *Or, three pales gules, a chief vaire, argent and ſable.* He left two ſons, Richard, of Rocheſter, M. D. and Samuel, of Boughton Malherb, whoſe ſon Samuel left an only daughter Sarah, who afterwards became entitled, by the will of her uncle, Mr. Peter Ady, who reſided in it, to one of the before-mentioned houſes, ſituated a little below the ſummit of Knole-hill, which ſhe carried in marriage to Thomas Thomſon, the eldeſt ſon of Thomas Thomſon, eſq. of Kenfield, who reſided here till he removed to Maidſtone, after which his truſtees ſold it.

Dr. Belcher, of Rocheſter, above-mentioned, the eldeſt ſon of William Belcher, rector of this pariſh, left a ſon William, who by Catherine, daughter of Thomas Stringer, of Goudhurſt, left three ſons, of whom the eldeſt, Stringer Belcher, was rector of this pariſh, and ended in four daughters and coheirs, as has been mentioned before, p. 331. Samuel, the ſecond ſon, reſided at another of the before-mentioned houſes, near the ſummit of Knole-hill, and died unmarried in 1760, and Edward, the third ſon, reſided at the third houſe, nearer to the village of Ulcombe, and died here in 1778, having had by Hannah, daughter of Richard Tilden, of Milſted, two ſons, Stringer, who reſided at Otterden, and died there unmarried, and William, who married Charlotte, daughter of Thomas Thomſon, eſq. of Kenfield, and ſucceeded

ceeded both to his father's ſeat in this pariſh, and likewiſe to that near the ſummit of Knole-hill, both which he is now entitled to.

The diſtrict of the Weald begins at the ſummit of the quarry hill, whence this pariſh extends over a low flat country ſouthward, the ſoil of which is a ſtiff clay, in wet weather very deep and miry, the land made fertile moſtly by manuring it with the marle dug up here, the rich and oily ſubſtance of which meliorates the ſtiff and cludgy particles of the clay, and not only renders it more prolific, but by ſeparating them renders it much eaſier for tillage; the hedge rows are broad, and much interſperſed with large oak trees. It is watered by ſeveral ſmall ſtreamlets, which riſe on the ſide of the hill, one of which turns a mill at Chegworth, hence they flow through the lower part of this pariſh, and join the larger ſtream of the Medway, a little above Hockenbury-bridge. In this part of it is a ſmall hamlet, built on one ſide of a ſmall common, and not far from it the eſtate of Kingſnorth.

THIS PLACE was given in very early times, by one of the Saxon kings, to the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, from which it was wreſted in the time of the Daniſh wars in this kingdom; but in the year 941, king Edmund, and Eadred his brother, and Edwyn, ſon of the former, reſtored it to that church, with other lands, which his anceſtors had unjuſtly taken from it: which grant was made in the ſame year in which Ethelſtane, the brother of king Edmund and Eadred, died, and Edmund was advanced to be king, who declared theſe lands free from all ſecular ſervices, excepting the repelling of invaſions, and the building of bridges and caſtles.

In the reign of the conqueror, Ulcomb was held of the archbiſhop of Canterbury by knights ſervice; accordingly it is thus entered, under the title of *Terra Militum Archiepi*, in the ſurvey of Domeſday.

The earl of Ow holds of the archbiſhop Olecumbe. It was taxed at two ſulings and an half in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and now for two only. The arable land is nine carucates, in demeſne there are two carucates, and twenty-three villeins, with eight borderers having ſeven carucates. There is a church, and one mill of four ſhillings, and eight acres of meadow. Wood ſufficient for the pannage of twenty hogs. In the whole, in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth ten pounds, when he received it eight pounds, now eleven pounds. Alfer held this manor of the archbiſhop.

Alfer, above-mentioned, the tenant of this manor under the archbiſhop, ſeems to have been a deſcendant of Ealher, or Alcher, who was earl of Kent in 853, and anceſtor of the family of Aucher, baronets, but lately extinct in this county.

William, earl of Ewe, in Normandy, held it, as appears by the above ſurvey, in the reign of the Conqueror, of the archbiſhop by knights ſervice.[c] After which, the family of St. Leger, called in Latin, *De Sancto Leodegario*, became poſſeſſed of it.

Sir Robert de St. Leger, attended William, duke of Normandy, into England, in the year 1066, as appears by the roll of Battle abbey, among thoſe perſons who aſſiſted him in the conqueſt of this kingdom, and there is a tradition in this family, that he ſupported the duke with his hand, when he quitted his ſhip to land in Suſſex; and that after the victory at Haſtings, having overcome a Pagan Dane, who inhabited Ulcomb, he fixed his reſidence here. He became poſſeſſed of this manor at the latter end of the Conqueror's reign, holding it of the archbiſhop by knights ſervice.

William de St. Leger, his grandſon, as is ſuppoſed, lived in the reign of Henry II. He was ſucceeded by Ralph de St. Leger, who, among other Kentiſh gen-

[c] See an account of his family in Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 136.

tlemen,

tlemen, accompanied king Richard I. to the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine.

Ralph de St. Leger, of Ulcomb, and Hugh St. Leger, of Knolton, in this county, were two of the *Recognitores Magnæ Aſſiſæ* in the 2d year of the reign of king John; the former of whom held this manor in the 12th and 13th years of that reign, of the archbiſhop. His ſucceſſor of the ſame name, in the next reign of Henry III. obtained the grant of a market at his manor here, on a Friday weekly, and a fair for three days, to be held yearly at it on Nov. 1, and two days afterwards; which liberties were allowed him before the juſtices itinerant, in the 21ſt year of king Edward I. and in the 28th year of the latter reign, he, with Sir John and Sir Thomas de St. Leger, attended the king to the ſiege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, where they were knighted, among many others, for their bravery.[f]

Ralph St. Leger poſſeſſed this manor in the reign of Edward III. when he paid aid for it, as two knights fees, held of the archbiſhop; in which year he repreſented this county in parliament. His youngeſt ſon, Thomas, was of Otterden, where a further account may be ſeen of him. Arnold St. Leger, the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded his father at Ulcomb, and repreſented this county in parliament, as did his ſon Ralph St. Leger, eſq. of Ulcomb, and in the 10th year of Richard II. was ſheriff of it. His ſon John St. Leger. eſq. was of Ulcomb, and was likewiſe ſheriff, anno 9 Henry VI. three years after which, he was returned in the liſt then taken of the gentry in this county, who had a right to bear the coat armour of their anceſtors. He died anno 20 Henry VI. poſſeſſed of this manor, and was buried in this church. He left three ſons; Ralph, who ſucceeded him at Ulcomb; Sir Thomas, who married Anne, ducheſs of Exeter, and left a ſole

[f] Iriſh Peer. vol. iii. p. 169. Philipott, p. 348.

daughter and heir, married to Sir George Manners, lord Roſs, anceſtor of the earls and dukes of Rutland; and Sir James St. Leger, who married Anne, daughter and coheir of Thomas Butler, earl of Ormond, from whom the St. Legers, of Devonſhire, are deſcended.

Ralph St. Leger, eſq. of Ulcomb, the eldeſt ſon was ſheriff anno 8 Edward IV. and conſtable of Leeds caſtle. He died ſoon afterwards, anno 1470, and was buried in this church.

Ralph St. Leger, his ſon, reſided at Ulcomb, where he kept his ſhrievalty in the 18th year of Henry VII. whoſe eldeſt ſon, Anthony St. Leger, ſucceeded his father in this manor, and by the acts of 31 Henry VIII. and 2 and 3 Edward VI. procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled*. He was a gentleman, who from his ſingular merit and eminent ſervices, proved himſelf an ornament to his country and his family, being high in the eſteem of Henry VIII. who made him of his privy chamber, and in the 31ſt of his reign, ſheriff of this county, being then ſeated at his paternal ſeat in this pariſh. The next year he was made lord deputy of Ireland, and in 1543 elected a knight of the garter. On the king's death, he was continued in his poſt of lord deputy, and of the privy council, as he was likewiſe under queen Mary; and being well verſed in Iriſh affairs, he by his prudence and magnanimity, did more towards civilizing that nation, and alluring it into a ſubmiſſion to the Engliſh government, than any one had done ſince the conqueſt of it to his own time. But being recalled from thence in the 3d and 4th year of Philip and Mary, he retired to this eſtate, where he died in 1559, and was buried with his anceſtors at Ulcomb. He bore for his arms, *Azure fretty argent, a chief or*; which was not their antient coat, for they bore, *Azure, a fret argent, a chief or*, as appears by that coat now remaining on the roof of the cloyſters at Canterbury, in

in the church of Woodneſborough, and among the quarterings of the coat borne by the lords Hunſdon.[s] He had by his wife Agnes, daughter of Hugh Warham, of Croydon, niece to William Warham, archbiſhop of Canterbury, three ſons and one daughter; of whom, Sir Anthony St. Leger, the youngeſt ſon, was maſter of the rolls in Ireland, and a privy counſellor, whoſe ſon Sir Anthony was of Wiarton-houſe, in Boughton Monchenſie, where a further account may be ſeen of him.

Warham St. Leger, eſq. the eldeſt ſurviving ſon, was of Ulcomb, where he kept his ſhrievalty in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth. In 1565 he was knighted, and the next year appointed chief governor of Munſter, and privy counſellor in Ireland, in which kingdom he performed eminent ſervices for her majeſty, in the progreſs of which he was unfortunately ſlain, in 1599, anno 42 Elizabeth, at the head of his troops, in an encounter with Hugh Macquire and his followers, the two chiefs killing each other in combat. Sir William St. Leger, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in this manor. He was a gentleman of great merit, valour, and integrity, being made by king Charles I. lord preſident of Munſter, of his privy council in that kingdom, and ſergeant-major-general of the Iriſh forces. He was anceſtor of the St. Legers, viſcounts Donraile, and others of this name ſtill remaining in that kingdom, and died in 1642. Some years before his death he alienated this manor to Henry Clerke, eſq. of Rocheſter, who ſerved in parliament for that city in the firſt year of king Charles I. of which he was recorder; and in the 12th year of that reign was made a ſerjeant-at law, whoſe paternal arms were *Argent, on a bend gules between three pellets, as many ſwans proper.*

[s] Le Neve's MSS. and Cooke's Baronage, MSS.

He left a ſon and heir Sir Francis Clerke, who ſucceeded him at Ulcomb, who was twice M. P. for Rocheſter, and of the privy chamber. He reſided at Ulcombe place, and dying in 1685 was ſucceeded here by his only ſon Francis, M. P. likewiſe, for that city. He reſided here and died in 1691, *ſ. p.* upon which this eſtate came by deviſe to Gilbert Clarke, eſq. the ſecond ſon of Gilbert Clarke, of Chilcot, in Derbyſhire, and on his deceaſe in 1725, to his ſon, Godfry Clarke, eſq. of Sutton, in that county, and M. P. for it, on whoſe deceaſe it came to his ſon, Godfry Bagnal Clarke, eſq. of Sutton, who was ſucceeded by his brother Gilbert Clarke, ſince deceaſed, whoſe ſiſter and heir Sarah married Job Hart Price, of Alderſhot, in Hampſhire, who in 1787 had licence to take the name and arms of Clarke, in addition to his own, and they are now jointly entitled to this manor, with that of Chegworth, in this pariſh likewiſe.

Boycot, vulgarly called *Boy-court*, is a manor in this pariſh, which afforded both ſeat and ſurname to a family of that denomination, as appears by ſeveral old deeds, ſome of which are without date, in which mention is made of Stephen, John, and Alexander de Boycot; the laſt of whom reſided here in the reigns of king Edward III. and king Richard II. and from him this manor deſcended down to John Boycot, who had iſſue two ſons, John and Stephen. One of them ſold his moiety, which accrued to him by the cuſtom of *gavelkind*, to Richard Hovenden; and the other alienated his part, which came to him in like manner, to William Adam, who gave it by his will to Thomas Glover, as is mentioned in the deed of ſale, by which he paſſed it away in the firſt year of king Henry VII. to Richard Hovenden, who then became poſſeſſed of the entire fee of this manor. He bore for his arms, *Chequy, argent and ſable, on a bend gules, three lions heads eraſed or.* It was afterwards ſold by one of his deſcendants to Clerke, of Woodchurch, in which name

name it does not appear to have ſtaid long, for Humphry Clarke, alienated it in the 19th year of queen Elizabeth to Thomas Sands, or Sondes, as the name was afterwards ſpelt, the eldeſt ſon of Sir Anthony, of Throwley, and he paſſed it away next year to Sir Maurice Berkeley, ſtandard bearer to king Henry VIII. Edward VI. and queen Elizabeth, who had married Elizabeth his ſiſter, and was deſcended of the ſame family as thoſe of this name ſince ennobled.[h]

On his death, Elizabeth, lady Berkeley, ſeems to have poſſeſſed this manor, in whoſe deſcendants it continued till it went into the name of Hubert, by a female heir of which it paſſed in marriage to Heath, of the family of thoſe formerly of Braſted-place, in this county, and bore the ſame arms, whoſe grandſon Nicholas Heath Nicholas, eſq. of Suſſex, in 1772 obtained the king's ſign-manuel, to take the name and arms of Nicholas only; the arms of which family are, *Argent, on a croſs gules, a crown or.* Nicholas Nicholas, eſq. is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

KINGSNORTH, alias *Kingſnode*, is a manor lying in this pariſh and Boughton Malherb, which was given to the abbot and convent of Faverſham in the 16th year of king Richard II. and as ſuch is eſteemed to be in the hundred of Faverſham, part of the poſſeſſions of which it continued till the diſſolution of that abbey in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered, together with all its poſſeſſions into the king's hands, after which this manor ſeems to have remained in the crown till king Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted it to Sir Anthony St. Leger, lord deputy of Ireland, &c. who died in 1559, and his eldeſt ſon Sir Warham St. Leger, eſq. having levied a fine of it, anno 17 Elizabeth, quickly afterwards paſſed it away to William Iſley, eſq. who in the 21ſt

[h] See the deſcent of this family in Atkins's Glouc. p. 135, 363. Coll. Peer. vol. iii. p. 439.

year

year of that reign alienated it to James Auſteyne, and he in the 23d year of it conveyed it by ſale to Robert Cranmer, eſq. of Chepſted, in this county, who died in 1619, leaving an only daughter and heir Anne, who carried it in marriage to Sir Arthur Herrys, eldeſt ſon of Sir William Herrys, of Crixey, in Eſſex, by whom he had two ſons, Sir Cranmer Herrys, and John. He died in 1632, and by his will deviſed this manor to his ſecond ſon, John Herris, eſq. whoſe ſon, Cranmer Herris, of Lincoln's-inn, poſſeſſed it at the reſtoration of king Charles II. He was afterwards of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, where he died in 1727, *ſ. p.* and was buried in the cloyſters there. Upon which, his only ſurviving ſiſter and ſole heir, Mrs. Annabella Herris, became poſſeſſed of this manor, and ſoon afterwards paſſed it away to Sir Edward Filmer, bart. of Eaſt Sutton, whoſe ſecond ſon Sir Beverſham Filmer, bart. of that pariſh, is at length become the preſent proprietor of it.

A court baron is held for this manor.

THERE IS a ſmall court held in this pariſh for *the manor of Huntingfield*, which ſeems to be a limb of the manor of Huntingfield, in Eaſling, and as ſuch to have continued with it part of the poſſeſſions of the free chapel or college of St. Stephen, in Weſtminſter, till its diſſolution in the 1ſt year of Edward VI.[1] in conſequence of the act which then paſſed for the ſurrendery of all ſuch chapels, chantries, &c. Since which this manor continued in the like chain of ownerſhip as that in Eaſling, to the family of Grove, of Tunſtall, in which it remained till Richard Grove, eſq. of London, dying unmarried in 1792, gave this among the reſt of his eſtates in this county, to Wm. Jemmet, gent. of Aſhford, and William Marſhall, of London, and they are the preſent owners of this manor.

A court baron is held for this manor.

[1] See more of this college under Bredhurſt.

CHARITIES.

CHARITIES.

CLEMENT BARLING gave by will to cloath ſix boys and two widows, 10s. for a ſermon to be preached on the day of the diſtribution, and 10s. in money to poor perſons, to be paid yearly out of land veſted in Mr. Spencer, of Maidſtone, now of the annual produce of 3l.

MRS. LUCRETIA HOLLAND, daughter of Sir Francis Clark, and the laſt of that family, gave by will in 1696, the ſum of 10l yearly, to be diſtributed among the poor of this pariſh in bread and cloaths, which has not been paid ſince 1774, being ſtopped by order of the truſtees of Gilbert Clarke, eſq.

The number of poor relieved here conſtantly are about 40; caſually about 20.

ULCOMB is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is dedicated to All Saints. In it lie buried in a vault many of the eminent family of St. Leger to the year 1654, of the Clarkes, and Gilbert Clarke, eſq. 1725, the laſt of his family who reſided in this pariſh. It was from the earlieſt time eſteemed as an appendage to the manor of Ulcomb.

About the year 1220, it was made *collegiate* by archbiſhop Stephen Langton, at the requeſt of Ralph de St. Leger, the patron of it, the ordination of which is ſtill remaining among the records of the dean and chapter of Canterbury; among which there is an inſtrument, by which it appears, that the head of this church or college was ſtiled *archipreſbyter*, and the inferior members, minor canons; but ſoon after the year 1293, this collegiate inſtitution ſeems to have dropped, and the church became again, and has remained ever ſince, a ſingle, undivided rectory as before, the patronage of which has remained in the poſſeſſion of the lords of the manor of Ulcomb till the preſent time.

It is valued in the king's books at 16l. 5s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 12s. 7d.

In

In 1640, it was valued at ſixty-nine pounds. Communicants 225. In queen Anne's reign it was valued at 140l. per annum.

CHURCH OF ULCOMB.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Anthony St Leger, eſq.	*Richard Horſmonden,* clerk, March 26, 1598, obt. Oct. 27, 1627.[k]
	Daniel Horſmonden, D. D. Nov. 8, 1627, deprived 1643.[l]
	William Belcher, A. M. 1643, obt. 1655, ejected 1662.[m]
	Meric Head, eſq. D. D. obt. March 6, 1686.[n]
	John Clerke, A. M. eſq. obt. Sept. 24, 1786.[o]
	John Loton, April 15, 1713, ob. 1716.
	Stringer Belcher, A. M. Sept. 26, 1716, obt. Dec. 11, 1739.[p]
	William Bell, A. M. 1740, obt. June 1778.
	Fitzherbert Adams, LL. B. July 1778, the preſent rector.

k Rym. Fœd. vol. xviii. p. 1009.

l Son of the former rector. In 1627, by diſpenſation vicar of Goudhurſt, ibid. p. 1005, he was deprived by the fanatics, and lived till 1655. See White's Century, p. 36. Wood's Ath. vol. i.

m Calamy's Life of Baxter, p. 286.

n Alſo rector of Leyborne, where he lies buried, with the addition of eſquire on his graveſtone.

o He was alſo vicar of Harrietſham He lies buried in this church. See Wood's Ath. Faſti, vol. ii. p. 190.

p He new built the parſonage-houſe, at the expence of upwards of 1000l. and died with a moſt excellent character, and was buried in this church.

There was a religious fraternity in this church, before the reformation, called the *Fraternity of Corpus Chriſti.*

BOUGHTON MALHERB.

THE next pariſh eaſtward from Ulcomb, is ſituated almoſt in the middle of this county, and is ſo called from a family antiently poſſeſſors of it, and to diſtinguiſh it from the ſeveral other pariſhes of the name of Boughton within this county.

It is written in antient deeds both Boughton and Bocton, and in ſome, *Bocton*, alias *Boughton*, and ſeems, as well as the other pariſhes of this name, to have been ſo called from *Boc*, ſignifying in Saxon a charter, and *ton*, a town or pariſh; that is, *the place held by charter*. So much of this pariſh as is eaſtward of a line drawn from the church of it acroſs, through the middle of Chilſton-houſe to Lenham church, is in the lath of Shipway, and in the diviſion of Eaſt Kent.

The ſummit of the hill, which croſſes this pariſh from weſt to eaſt, is the northern boundary of the Weald of Kent; ſo much of it, therefore, as is ſouthward of that line, is within that diſtrict.

But a very ſmall part of this pariſh lies above, or northward of the quarry hills, in which part the ſoil is a deep unfertile ſand, at the northern boundary of it, at a place called Sandway, the high road runs from Aſhford towards Maidſtone, the pales of Chilſton park join it, the manſion of which ſtands about a quarter of a mile within it, on lower ground, rather in a damp and wet ſituation, but well cloathed round it with trees, behind it the ground riſes to the hills, near the ſummit of which is the church, and not far diſtant eaſtward the parſonage, a good habitation; cloſe to the church-yard weſtward are the ſmall remains of Boughton-place, by no means an unpleaſant ſituation, the greateſt part of which has been pulled down many years

years ago, andwhat is left of it, though only ſufficient for a farm-houſe, gives a ſtrong idea of what it once was. Here the quarry rock abounds pretty near the ſurface, and from the church here ſouthward the Weald begins, the lands above and below the hill being diſtinguiſhed by the names of Boughton upland, and Boughton Weald, in like manner as the other pariſhes in the ſame ſituation. From the church ſouthward the hill declines, and not far from the bottom of it is the village, or to ſay more properly, the hamlet of Graſſley-green, and not far from it Eaſtwood common, with another ſmaller hamlet of houſes on the lower ſide of it. Hence the pariſh extends over an unpleaſant country, very flat and deep; the ſoil a miry ſtiff clay, the ſame in every particular as thoſe parts of the adjoining pariſhes laſt deſcribed, which lie below theſe hills, continuing over it for more than three miles, till it joins Hedcorne and Smarden, the whole being watered by ſeveral ſmall ſtreamlets, which run into the larger one at Hedcorne; about a mile only from this boundary of the pariſh is the ſcite of Colbridge-caſtle, the mote and foundations of which are all that remain of it.

Dr. Plot mentions in his MSS. collections for a natural hiſtory of this county, ſome petrified oyſter ſhells, being found at Chilſton, which were larger than even thoſe of Cyzicum, mentioned in Pliny to be the largeſt of any then known.[q]

At the time of taking the general ſurvey of Domeſday, about the year 1080, this manor was held of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, by knights ſervice, and ſeems to have been included in the donation which Æthelſtan Etheling gave by his will in 1015, to Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, of lands in Hollingborne, as will more plainly appear by the following entry of it in that record.

[q] Pliny's Natural Hiſtory, lib. 32, cap. 1.

In

In Hailhorne hundred, Ralph Fitzturald holds Boltone of the archbiſhop. It was taxed at half a ſuling, and lies in the ſix ſulings of Holingeborne. The arable land is one carucate and an half. In demeſne there is one carucate, and three villeins, with two borderers having one carucate. There is a church, and two acres of meadow, and wood for the pannage of ſixteen hogs. In the whole it is, and was, worth ſeparately forty ſhillings.

The above deſcription plainly relates to that ſmall part of this pariſh above or northward of the hill, the other part below it in the Weald, at that time, being for the moſt part, an uncultivated foreſt, and part of the royal demeſnes of the crown of England, though many grants had been made of different parts of it, even at that time.

The manor came afterwards into the poſſeſſion of the family of Malherb, who implanted their name on this pariſh. Robert de Malherb held it in the reign of king John, of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, as appears by the roll of knights fees returned to the king's treaſurer, in the twelfth and thirteenth years of that reign.

Alicia Malherb poſſeſſed Boughton Malherb manor in the beginning of the next reign of king Henry III.

Robert de Gatton, ſon of Robert de Gatton, who was one of the *Recognitores Magnæ Aſſiſæ*, or judges of the great aſſiſe, in the ſecond year of king John, and bore for his arms, *Chequy, or and azure*, died poſſeſſed of this manor in the thirty-eighth year of king Henry III. and was ſucceeded in it by Hamo his ſon, who died poſſeſſed of it in the twentieth year of king Edward I. holding it of the king *in capite*, as of the honor of Peverel, and by the ſervice of ward to the caſtle of Dover, and by ſuit to the court of Oſprenge from three weeks to three weeks, Hamo his ſon, being his heir, who left his two daughters his coheirs; of whom Elizabeth married to William de Dene, entitled her huſband to the poſſeſſion of this manor.

He

He died in the fifteenth year of king Edward III. poſſeſſed of it, with the advowſon of the church, as of the inheritance of Elizabeth his wife, having, in the tenth year of king Edward II. obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands here.

His eldeſt ſon, Thomas de Dene, died poſſeſſed of it in the twenty-third year of king Edward III. bearing for his arms, *Argent, a feſs dancette, gules.* He left by Martha his wife, daughter of Benedict Shelving, four daughters his coheirs, of whom Martha, afterwards was married to Sir John Gouſall, who bore for his arms, *A plain ſhield azure.*

Soon after his death this manor, by what means I have not diſcovered, came into the poſſeſſion of Robert Corbie, who appears to have built a ſtately manſion here, having in the 36th year of Edward III. obtained the king's licence ſo to do, and to fortify this his manor-houſe at Boughton with embattlements and towers, according to the defence of thoſe times. His ſon Robert Corbye, eſq. of this place, kept his ſhrievalty here in the 8th year of Richard II. He left by Alice, daughter and coheir of Sir John Gouſall before-mentioned, an only daughter and heir, Joane, who carried this manor in marriage to Nicholas Wotton, eſq. whoſe deſcendants flouriſhed in this pariſh for many generations afterwards, and for their learning, fortune, and honors, at times when honors were really ſuch, may truly be ſaid to have been ornaments to their country in general, and to this county in particular. Mr. Wotton was of the Draper's company, and was twice lord-mayor of London, at which time he bore for his arms, *Argent, a croſs patee, fitched at the foot, ſable,* quartered with Corbye, *Argent, a ſaltire ingrailed ſable,* which arms of Corbye, his mother's, his ſon bore, in preference to his own, as the elder branch of this family, which, his deſcendants continued to do for ſome time afterwards. Stow ſays, it was reckoned a privilege for any one, who had been lord-

lord-mayor and alderman of London, not to ſerve the king, without his own conſent, in any other part of the kingdom. Such a matter once happened in the reign of Henry VI. for Nicholas Wotton, ſome time mayor and alderman, living in Kent, ſtood upon this privilege, and refuſed to ſerve when he was impanelled with others before the judges of aſſize, in this county, upon articles touching the king's peace, and on pretence of the liberty of the city of London, refuſed to be ſworn. But this was held as a contempt, and he afterwards had his pardon anno 17 Henry VI.[r] He retired to Boughton-place, where he died in 1448, and was buried in the church here. His grandſon, Sir Robert Wotton, was lieutenant of Guiſnes, and comptroller of Calais, where he died, and was buried in the church there. He had been ſheriff anno 14 Henry VII. and married Anne, one of the ſiſters and coheirs of Sir Edward Belknap, by whom he left two ſons, Edward, his heir, and Henry, LL. D. afterwards dean of York and Canterbury, of whom more may be ſeen under the account of the deans of the latter cathedral, in which he lies buried.

Sir Edward Wotton, the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him here, who was treaſurer of Calais, and of the privy council to Henry VIII. and Hollingſhed ſays, the king offered to make him lord chancellor, which, through his great modeſty, he refuſed. In the 27th year of king Henry VIII. he kept his ſhrievalty at Boughton-place, and procured his lands to be *diſgavelled* by both the acts of the 31ſt Henry VIII. and 2d and 3d Edward VI. He died in 1550, being then poſſeſſed of the manor and rectory of Boughton Malherb, held *in capite*, as of the king's manor of Oſpringe, the manor of Colbridge, and the manor of Byndwardſmarſh, together with other lands purchaſed of Henry VIII. and held *in capite* by knights ſervice,

[r] Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 80.

with many other manors and lands, as mentioned in the inquiſition then taken.

Thomas Wotton, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in Boughton-place, where he reſided. He was cloſely impriſoned in the Fleet, in 1553, by queen Mary, under pretence of his religion, but really at the requeſt of his uncle, Dr. Nicholas Wotton, on account of a dream he had had in France, where he was then ambaſſador, and this in all likelihood ſaved Mr. Wotton's life: for whilſt he was in priſon, Wyat's rebellion broke out, in which he had moſt probably been concerned, had he not been confined there. He was twice ſheriff, and in July 1573, being the 16th year of queen Elizabeth's reign had the honor of entertaining the queen, with her whole court, at his ſeat here, in her progreſs through this county. Walton ſays, that the queen, when at Boughton, offered to knight Mr. Wotton, as an earneſt of ſome more honorable and profitable employment under her, which he declined, being unwilling to change his country retirement and recreations for a courtier's life; however, it appears by his epitaph, that he afterwards accepted of that honor. He reſided here till his death, in 1587, having been remarkable for his hoſpitality; a great lover and much beloved of his country, a cheriſher of learning, and beſides his own abilities, poſſeſſed of a plentiful eſtate, and the antient intereſt of his family.

He was twice married; by his firſt wife he had Edward his heir, and other children; by his ſecond he had only one ſon Henry, afterwards knighted, and provoſt of Eton college.*

He was ſucceeded here by his eldeſt ſurviving ſon, Sir Edward Wotton, who was employed by queen Elizabeth, as her ambaſſador, on ſeveral occaſions;

* See an account of his writings, and further particulars of his life, in Walton's life of him, in Wotton's Remains; and in Biog. Brit. vol. vii. p. 4339.

after

after which he was made comptroller of her houſhold; repreſented this county in parliament, and ſerved the office of ſheriff in the 36th year of that reign. In the 1ſt year of king James I.'s reign he was created lord Wotton, baron of Merley, in this county;[t] and next year he was appointed lord lieutenant of it, a privy counſellor, and afterwards comptroller and treaſurer of the houſhold. He incloſed the grounds round his houſe here as a park, but they have been long ſince again diſparked, and died in 1628, being ſucceeded by Thomas, lord Wotton, his only ſon, who died two years afterwards. It has been obſerved that Nicholas Wotton, eſq. ſon of Sir Nicholas Wotton, by Joane, daughter and heir of Corbye, bore his mother's arms in preference to his own, as his deſcendants of the eldeſt branch ſeem to have done, till Thomas, lord Wotton, as appears by his arms on his grave-ſtone, reaſſumed the arms of Wotton in his firſt quartering again, which was followed by his four daughters and coheirs, and Guillim ſays, that *argent, a ſaltire (engrailed) ſable*, was borne by the name of Wotton, and was in effect confirmed to Edward Wotton, eſq. being allowed, and with his quarterings, being ſeventeen in number, marſhalled, by Robert Cooke, in 1580. He left four daughters his coheirs, Catherine, married to Henry, lord Stanhope, ſon and heir of Philip, earl of Cheſterfield; Heſter, to Baptiſt Noel, viſcount Camden; Margaret, to Sir John Tufton, of the Mote, knight and baronet, and Anne, to Sir Edward Hales, of Tunſtal.

On the partition of his eſtates among his daughters, the manor of Boughton, with the manſion of Boughton-place, and the advowſon of the rectory, were, among other eſtates, allotted to the eldeſt daughter, the lady Catherine, in whoſe right her huſband, Henry,

[t] See the very particular manner of his creation, vol. iii. p. 240, and in Harl. MSS. No. 6166-15, among which MSS. are many pedigrees and papers relating to this family.

lord Stanhope, became poſſeſſed of them. He was deſcended from anceſtors ſeated in early times in the county of Nottingham, where they flouriſhed with much eminence and renown, bearing for their arms, quarterly, *Ermine and gules.* After a ſucceſſion of many generations of them, Michael Stanhope became the heir male of this family in the reign of Henry VIII. whoſe grandſon, Sir John Stanhope, was firſt of Shelford, and afterwards of Elvaſton, in Derbyſhire, where he died in 1611, leaving by his firſt wife, one ſon Philip; by his ſecond wife he had ſeveral ſons and daughters; of whom, Sir John, the eldeſt, was ſeated at Elvaſton, from whom the preſent earl of Harrington is deſcended. Sir Philip Stanhope, eldeſt ſon of Sir John, was, anno 14 James I. 1616, created lord Stanhope of Shelford, and afterwards in 1628 Earl of Cheſterfield. Continuing ſtedfaſt in his loyalty to the king, his houſe was by ſtorm burnt to the ground, and the earl being taken priſoner at Litchfield, endured a long confinement, and died in 1656. By his firſt wife he had eleven ſons and four daughters, of the former, Henry, the ſecond, but eldeſt ſurviving ſon, married Katherine, daughter and coheir of Thomas, lord Wotton, and poſſeſſed Boughton Malherb as before-mentioned.

He died in the life-time of his father in 1635, leaving his wife ſurviving, and one ſon, Philip, then a year old. The lady Catherine Stanhope, on her huſband's death, became again poſſeſſed in her own right of this eſtate, among the reſt of her inheritance, and was afterwards created counteſs of Cheſterfield, to hold during her life She had before the death of king Charles I. remarried John Vanden Kerkhoven, lord of Henulflet in Holland, by whom ſhe had a ſon Charles Henry Kerkhoven, who was, by reaſon of his mother's deſcent, created lord Wotton, baron Wotton of Boughton Malherb, and was naturalized. He was likewiſe created earl of Bellamont in Ireland, and bore for his arms,

arms, *Argent, three hearts gules.* He died *ſ. p.* having reſided at Boughton-place, and was buried in Canterbury cathedral in 1683, having by his will given this, among the reſt of his eſtates, to his nephew Charles Stanhope, younger ſon of his half-brother Philip, then earl of Cheſterfield; remainder to Philip, lord Stanhope, eldeſt ſon and heir apparent of his brother; remainder to his brother Philip, earl of Cheſterfield, with divers remainders over, in tail male.

Charles Stanhope, eſq. upon this changed his ſurname to Wotton, being the laſt of this family who reſided at Boughton-place, where he died in 1704, *ſ. p.* Upon which this eſtate came by the above entail to Philip, lord Stanhope, his elder brother, who on his father's death in 1713, ſucceeded as earl of Cheſterfield, and died in 1726. His eldeſt ſon Philip Dormer Stanhope, earl of Cheſterfield, became remarkable for the brilliancy of his wit, and the politeneſs of his manners. He was an eminent ſtateſman, and much in favor with king George I. and II. who conferred on him from time to time ſeveral offices and truſts of honor and advantage, in all which he ſhewed his eminent abilities and public ſpirit, whenever the intereſt and honor of his country was concerned, but at length his health declining, he retired from all public buſineſs. However, before this period he paſſed away this manor, with the ſcite of Boughton-place, and the advowſon of the rectory appendant to the manor, and all the reſt of the Wotton eſtates in this part of the county, by the deſcription of the heriotable manor of Bocton, alias Boughton Malherbe, the manors of Burſcombe, Wardens, alias Egerton, Southerdon, Colbridge, Marley, alias Marleigh, Sturry, Eaſt Farborne, Holmill, alias Harrietſham, and Fill, in 1750, to Galfridus Mann, eſq. of London. This family is deſcended from anceſtors ſeated at Ipſwich, in Suffolk, of whom Edward Mann, eſq. was comptroller of the cuſtoms at that place, who bore for his arms, *Sable on a feſs counter-*

embattled, between three goats paſſant argent, as many ogreſſes; which was confirmed to him by Byſhe, clarencieux, in 1692. His deſcendant, Robert Mann, was of London, and afterwards of Linton, in this county, eſq. who died in 1752, leaving five ſons and three daughters, Edward Louiſa, the eldeſt ſon, was of Linton, eſq. where he died unmarried in 1775, and was ſucceeded in his eſtates in this county by his brother, Sir Horatio Mann, bart. and K. B. who was the ſecond ſon, and was many years reſident at Florence, as envoy extraordinary. On March 3, 1755, he was created a baronet, to him and his heirs male, and in default of ſuch iſſue, to his brother Galfridus, and his heirs male, he died unmarried in 1786, and was ſucceeded in title and eſtate by his nephew Sir Horace Mann, whoſe father was Galfridus, the third ſon, who was purchaſer of Boughton manor, as before-mentioned. Of the daughters of Robert Mann, Eleanor married Sir John Torriano, of London, merchant, by whom ſhe had iſſue; Mary married Benjamin Hatley Foote, eſq.[n] and Catherine married the Rev. Francis Hender Foote. Galfridus Mann, eſq. died poſſeſſed of this eſtate in 1756, leaving by Sarah his wife, daughter of John Gregory, of London, one ſon, Horatio, and three daughters, viz. Alice, married to Mr. Apthorpe; Sarah, who died unmarried; Catherine, married to the hon. and Rev. Dr. Cornwallis, now biſhop of Litchfield, next brother to marquis Cornwallis, and Eleanor, married to Thomas Powis, lord Lilford.

Horatio Mann, eſq. ſucceeded his father in the poſſeſſion of this eſtate, of which he is the preſent owner. He was afterwards knighted, being then ſtiled Sir Horace Mann, to diſtinguiſh him from his uncle Sir Horatio, on whoſe death he ſucceeded him in the title of baronet. He has been twice M. P. for Maidſtone, as he is now for the town and port of Sandwich. He mar-

[n] See Linton, vol. iv. of this hiſtory, p. 368.

ried

ried in 1765 lady Lucy Noel, ſiſter of Thomas, earl of Gainſborough, who died at Nice in 1778, by whom he has three daughters, Lucy, Emely, and Harriot, the eldeſt of whom is married to James Mann, eſq. of Linton-place; the ſecond to Robert Heron, eſq. of Lincolnſhire.

Wormſell has always been counted as an appendage to the manor of Boughton.

COLBRIDGE antiently called *Colewebregges*, is an eminent manor in this pariſh, the manſion of which, called *Colbridge-caſtle*, ſtood below the hill towards Egerton, conſiderable remains of its former ſtrength being viſible in the ruins of it, even at this time; and the report of the country is, that the ſtones and other materials of this ruined manſion were made uſe of, ages ago, to build Boughton-place.

In the reign of king Henry III. this place was in the poſſeſſion of the family of Peyforer; one of whom, Fulk de Peyforer, obtained a charter of free-warren for his lands at Colewebrugge in the 32d year of king Edward I.[w] and he had licence in the 7th year of the next reign of king Edward II. to embattle, that is, to build and fortify in a caſtle-like manner, his manſion here. Soon after which it ſeems to have paſſed into the family of Leyborne, who had long before this poſſeſſions in this pariſh, and William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, huſband to Juliana, daughter of Thomas de Leyborne, died poſſeſſed of it in the 28th year of king Edward III. She ſurvived him, and afterwards became again poſſeſſed of it in her own right, and continued ſo at her death, anno 41 Edward III. when there being found no one who could claim conſanguinity to her, this manor, among the reſt of her eſtates, eſcheated to the crown, where it remained till the beginning of king Richard II's. reign, when it became veſted in John, Duke of Lancaſter, and other feoffees in truſt, for the performance of

[w] Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 18. Pat. Rolls in the Tower.

certain religious bequeſts in the will of Edward III. then lately deceaſed. In conſequence of which, the king afterwards, in his 21ſt year, granted it, among other premiſes, to the dean and canons of St. Stephen's college in Weſtminſter, for ever, for the performance of the religious purpoſes therein mentioned, and in part of the exoneration of the ſum of 500l. to be taken at his treaſury till he ſhould in ſuch manner provide for them.

In which ſituation this manor continued till the 1ſt year of king Edward VI. when an act paſſing for the ſurrendry of all free chapels, chantries, &c. this, among others, was ſoon afterwards diſſolved, and the lands and poſſeſſions of it were ſurrendered into the king's hands, at which time it appears to have been in the tenure of William Hudſon, at the yearly rent of 8l. 13s. 4d. The year after which, the king granted it to Sir Edward Wotton, to hold *in capite*, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 5th year of that reign, holding it in manner as above mentioned. After which, it paſſed through the like ſucceſſion of ownerſhip as Boughton manor before deſcribed, down to Philip Dormer Stanhope, earl of Cheſterfield, who in 1750 ſold it, with the reſt of the Wotton eſtates in this part of the county, to Galfridus Mann, eſq. whoſe only ſon Sir Horace Mann, bart. is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

Chilson, or *Chilſton*, is a manor, ſituated in the borough of Sandway, at the north-weſt boundary of this pariſh, which croſſes the middle of this houſe, the eaſtern part of which is in the pariſh of Lenham, lath of Shipway, and eaſtern diviſion of this county. It was antiently called Childeſton, and was in the reign of king Henry I. part of the poſſeſſions of William Fitz-Hamon, as appears by the regiſter of the neighbouring priory of Ledes. After which it became the property of the family of Hoeſe, afterwards called Huſſey. Henry Hoeſe or Huſſey had a charter of free-warren for his manor of Childerſton in the 55th year

year of king Henry III. before which he had taken an active part with the rebellious barons againſt that king. He died in the 18th year of king Edward I. leaving by Joane his wife, daughter and coheir of Alard Fleming, and niece of that noted pluraliſt John Maunſell, provoſt of Beverly, &c. Henry Huſſee his ſon and heir, who, in the 23d year of that reign, had ſummons to Parliament, as he had likewiſe in all the ſucceeding ones of it, and of the next of king Edward II. in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Henry Huſſey, who in the 31ſt year of Henry VIIIths. reign, procured his lands to be *diſgavelled* by the general act paſſed that year, and afterwards tranſmitted it by ſale to John Parkhurſt, whoſe deſcendant Sir William Parkhurſt alienated it to Mr. Richard Northwood, of Dane-court, in Thanet, whoſe eldeſt ſon Alexander Northwood, or Norwood, as he was uſually called, was of St. Stephen's, near Canterbury, and ſucceeded his father in this manor, which he ſold ſoon after the death of king Charles I. to Cleggat, and he again ſold it to Mr. Manley, of London, who quickly afterwards alienated it to Edward Hales, eſq. who was the ſon of Samuel Hales, a younger ſon of Sir Edward Hales, created a baronet in 1611. He afterwards reſided at Chilſton, and died in 1696, leaving his three daughters his coheirs, viz. Thomaſine, wife of Gerard Gore, gent. Elizabeth Hales, and Frances, wife of William Glanville, eſq. of London, who in 1698 joined in the conveyance of this manor, with other eſtates in this pariſh and neighbourhood, to the hon. Elizabeth Hamilton, the eldeſt daughter of John lord Colepeper, and widow of James Hamilton, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of Sir George Hamilton, of Tyrone, in Ireland.

She reſided at Chilſton, and dying here in 1709, was buried in Hollingborne church, leaving two ſons ſurviving; James, earl of Abercorn, and William Hamilton, eſq. to the latter of whom ſhe gave by her will this manor, with her other eſtates in this county. He

reſided

reſided at Chilſton, and died poſſeſſed of it in 1737, leaving by Margaret his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper, of Hollingborne, four ſons and one daughter; of whom, John Hamilton, eſq. the eldeſt, ſucceeded him at Chilſton, where he reſided and incloſed the ground round it for a park, beſtowing much coſt on the improvement both of the houſe and grounds adjoining to it. He kept his ſhrievalty here in 1719, and afterwards with the concurrence of his eldeſt ſon William, joined in the ſale of this eſtate to Thomas Beſt, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of Mawdiſtley Beſt, eſq. of Boxley, who reſided at Chilſton, the manſion of which he rebuilt, and made other very conſiderable improvements to the park, and grounds. He died in 1795, *ſ. p.* having married Caroline, daughter of George Scott, eſq. of Scott's hall, who died in 1782, and by his will gave this among his other eſtates to his nephew George, the youngeſt ſon of his brother James Beſt, eſq. of Boxley and Chatham, who now reſides here, He was M. P. for Rocheſter in the laſt parliament. and in 1784 married Caroline, daughter of Edward Scott, eſq. of Scott's-hall, by whom he has ſeveral children.

THE TYTHES of the manor of Chilſton, or Childeſton, were given to the priory of Leeds ſoon after the foundation of it, by William Fitz-Hamon, the owner of it; viz. in corn, fruit, hay fowls, calves, flax, pannage, cheeſes, pigs, and in all other things which belonged to the demeſne, to Edwin de Bletchindenne, with his tenancy, to hold as freely as he ever held it.[x]

This portion of tithes remained part of the poſſeſſions of the priory till the diſſolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, among other eſtates belonging to it. After which the king, by his dotation charter in his 33d year

[x] Regiſt. of Leeds abbey, fol. 2, p. 2, l. 16. See the confirmations of it in the ſame regiſter.

ſettled

ſettled this portion of tithes on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rocheſter, who now poſſeſs the inheritance of it. George Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, is the preſent leſſee of it.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. theſe tithes were ſurveyed in 1649, by order of the ſtate; when it was returned, that this portion conſiſted of all the tithes of corn, grain, hay, wool, lambs, calves, and other ſpiritual obventions and duties, ariſing out of the manor of Chilſton, in Boughton Malherbe and Lenham, of the yearly improved value of fourteen pounds, which premiſes were let by the dean and chapter, anno 15 Charles I. to Richard Norwood, eſq. for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of ten ſhillings, ſo that there remained the clear yearly rent of 13l. 10s.

BEWLEY is a manor in this pariſh, of conſiderable repute, extending itſelf into the pariſh of Harrietſham. It was antiently called *Boughley*, and was part of thoſe poſſeſſions which William the Conqueror gave to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux; under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in Domeſday:

Adam Fitzhubert holds of the biſhop of Baieux, Bogelei. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is two carucates and an half. In demeſne there is one carucate, and two villeins, with two borderers having half a carucate. There is a church, and four ſervants, and one mill of five ſhillings, and ſix acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of twenty hogs.

After which there follows another entry, importing, that *of this ſame manor one tenant named Adam held one ſuling, called Merlea,* of which a further account will be given, under the deſcription of Marley, in the adjoining pariſh of Harrietſham.

On the biſhop of Baieux's diſgrace in 1084, all his poſſeſſions were confiſcated to the crown; after which this manor appears to have become the property of Eudo Dapifer, and afterwards of Philip de Leleburne, or

or Leyburne, whoſe deſcendant Robert de Leiburne held it in the reign of king Edward I. in which name it continued till it was alienated to Tregoze,[y] one of whom, Thomas Tregoze, held it in the beginning of king Edward III.'s reign, in the 5th year of which he obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands at Boggeleye. John Tregoze died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 5th year of Henry IV. but it did not remain long in that name; for in the reign of Henry VI. it was become the property of Goldwell, from whence it was alienated to Atwater, of Lenham, from whence by Joane, daughter and coheir of Robert Atwater, of Royton, in that pariſh, it went in marriage to Humphry Hales, eſq. of the Dungeon, in Canterbury, who had a numerous iſſue by her. He was ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſon Sir James Hales, of the Dungeon, whoſe ſon Cheney Hales, eſq. of the Dungeon, paſſed it away to his kinſman John Hales, eſq. eldeſt ſon of Sir Edward Hales, created a baronet in 1611. He parted with it to his brother Mr. Samuel Hales, whoſe ſon Edward Hales, eſq. of Chilſton, ſucceeded him in it. Since which it has paſſed in like manner as Chilſton, before deſcribed, down to George Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

THE TITHES of this manor were given by Eudo Dapifer to Anſchetill, archdeacon of Canterbury, who afterwards, with the conſent of Eudo, granted them to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rocheſter. Theſe tithes were afterwards confirmed to the priory on the payment annually of five ſhillings to the monks of Colcheſter. Henry de Leiburne, poſſeſſor of this manor, having inſpected the charters of his anceſtors, confirmed theſe tithes in pure alms to the church of St. Andrew, and the monks of Rocheſter.

[y] See an account of this family in Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 615.

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This portion of tithes remained with the priory till the diſſolution of it, in the 32d year of Henry VIII. when it was, among the reſt of the poſſeſſions of that monaſtery, ſurrendered into the king's hands, who in his 33d year ſettled them, by his dotation charter, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, part of whoſe inheritance they remain at this time. George Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, is the preſent leſſee of them.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, ſoon after the death of king Charles I. this portion was ſurveyed, by order of the ſtate, in 1649; when it was returned, that theſe tithes aroſe out of the manor of Bugley, together with the tithe of the mill, called Bugley-mill, of the improved yearly value of nine pounds, which premiſes were let by the dean and chapter in the 10th year of Charles I. to Samuel Hales, eſq. for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of two quarters of malt heaped, and one capon, or two ſhillings in money; ſo there remained clear the rent of 5l. 14s. per annum.

There are no parochial charities. The poor conſtantly relieved are about forty, caſually twenty-five.

BOUGHTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Charing.

The church is a handſome building, with a ſquare tower ſteeple at the weſt end. The inſide of it is much ornamented by the ſeveral monuments of the Wotton family, moſt of whom lie buried in it; but there was one of them, a large pyramid of black marble, ſupported by three lions couchant, on a deep baſe, erected to the memory of Henry, lord Stanhope, his widow lady Catherine, counteſs of Cheſterfield, her third huſband Daniel O'Neal, and ſeveral of her children, which was injudiciouſly placed juſt within the altar rails eaſtward, and filled up almoſt the whole ſpace of it, but has lately been taken down to make room for an altar and railing. In the ſouth chancel there is a very antient figure in Bethersden marble of a man in armour lying croſs-legged with his ſhield and ſword. It lies on the pavement,

pavement, and ſeems to have been removed from ſome other part of the church. On the oppoſite ſide of the chancel is the figure of a woman, full as antient as the former, and of the like marble, but fixed in the pavement, theſe moſt probably were in memory of one of the family of Peyforer and his wife.

The families of Hales and Hamilton, both of Chilſton, and all their children, were chriſtened and married in Boughton church, but were all buried from time to time in Lenham church.

The church of Boughton has always been eſteemed as an appendage to the manor, and as ſuch is now the property of Sir Horace Mann, bart. In 1578 there were one hundred and eight communicants here.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 13l. 15s. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 7s. 6d.

In 1640 it was valued at ſeventy pounds. Communicants one hundred and ninety-ſeven.

CHURCH OF BOUGHTON MALHERB.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Lords of Boughton manor.	*Chriſtopher Porter*, in 1494.
	Richard Elmſtone, obt. 1611.
	Robert Barrell, A. M. June 21, 1611.
	Lewis Morgan, obt.
	Lionel Sharpe, S. T. P. obt. Jan. 1, 1630.[z]
	Thomas Johnſon, 1653.
	Robert Ellis, A. M. Oct. 24, 1661, obt. 1675.
	Michael Stanhope, A. M. March 12, 1675, obt. Sept. 1724.[a]
	Richard Otway, 1724, obt. 1750.
	Francis Hender Foote, LL. B. January 1751, obt. Jan. 27, 1773.[b]

z He lies buried in this church.

a And rector of East Langton, in Yorkſhire. He lies buried in this church.

b He had his degree of LL. B. conferred on him by the archbiſhop, and held Linton with this rectory by virtue of it.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	RECTORS.
Lords of Boughton manor.	*James Cornwallis*, S. T. P. 1773, reſig. 1779.[c]
	Edward Beckingham Benſon, B. A. 1779, reſig. 1782.[d]
	Robert Foote, A. M. the preſent rector.[e]

[c] Dean of Canterbury, and rector of Wrotham, and next brother to marquis Cornwallis. He is now biſhop of Lichfield.

[d] Afterwards rector of Deal.

[e] In 1795 made a prebendary; and in 1797 canon reſidentiary of Lichfield.

LENHAM.

NORTHWARD from Boughton Malherb, cloſe at the foot of the chalk-hills, lies Lenham, written in the book of Domeſday, *Lerham* and *Lertham*, no doubt corruptly for *Leanham*, by which name it is called in moſt of the antient charters and deeds, as well before as ſince that time. It takes its name from the ſtream which riſes in it, and *ham*, which ſignifies a town or village.

The *weſtern part* of this pariſh is in the lath of Aylesford, hundred of Eyhorne, and *the weſtern diviſion of this county*, that is all of it which lies weſtward of a line drawn from the centre of Chilſton-houſe, northward to the eaſt end of the church, and thence to Warren-ſtreet, on the ſummit of the chalk hills.

The reſidue of it, including that part of it called Eaſt Lenham, is in the lath of Shipway, and hundred of Calehill, and *the eaſtern diviſion* of the county.

THE PARISH *of Lenham* is of large extent, being upwards of five miles in length from eaſt to weſt, and four in breadth from north to ſouth, where it encompaſſes the whole width of the valley from the chalk to the quarry hills. However healthy it may be it is far from being a pleaſant ſituation, owing to its untoward ſoil, which towards the ſouth and weſt is moſtly a deep

a deep ſand; near the foot of the chalk hills a cludgy chalk mixed with flints, the whole a poor unfertile country, the fields of which are in general large, having but few trees round them, and thoſe of a ſtunted unthriving aſpect; above theſe hills northward is Downe-court and Warren-ſtreet, beyond which the pariſh extends more than a mile, as far as Aſhden and Syndal, in the valley between Hollingborne and Doddington, a poor country and a flinty barren ſoil.

The town of Lenham ſtands in the valley between the quarry and chalk hills, which is here about two miles wide, rather nearer the latter, in a damp and moiſt ſituation, owing to the ſprings which riſe near it, of which further mention will be made hereafter. It is rather a dull and unfrequented place, and of but little traffic, in ſhort I cannot give a better deſcription of it than in the words of the inhabitants themſelves, who, on travellers paſſing through it, and enquiring if it is Lenham, in general make anſwer, "*Ah, Sir, poor Lenham.*"

The church ſtands at the ſouth end of it, and being weſtward of the line which ſeparates the two diviſions of the county, the town itſelf, as well as the pariſh, is eſteemed to belong to Weſt Kent, and all the pariſh buſineſs is tranſacted at the Maidſtone ſeſſions accordingly; the market, which was granted to the abbot of St. Auguſtine's, as has been mentioned before, to be held within his manor here, has been diſcontinued many years, but in 1757 there was an attempt made to revive it for the buying and ſelling of corn, and other ſuch commodities, and it was ordered by the lord of the manor to be held on a Friday weekly, but I am informed it has been but little reſorted to. The fair, which has been mentioned as having been granted likewiſe to the abbot, is now held yearly by the alteration of the ſtile on June 6, for horſes and cattle, and there is another fair held on October 23, for the like purpoſe. A market is likewiſe held at Sandway, in this

this pariſh, for bullocks, upon every Tueſday after Allhallows-day, Nov. 1, until Chriſtmas.

Near the foot of the chalk hills lie the three eſtates of Shelve, on the oppoſite or ſouthern part of the pariſh, where the ſoil is moſtly a barren ſand, there are ſeveral ſmall heaths or foſtalls; through this part of the pariſh the high road from Aſhford runs over Lenham, formerly called Royton heath, and by Chilſton park pales and Sandway, over Bigon-heath, towards Leeds caſtle and Maidſtone; ſouthward of this heath the pariſh extends weſtward, taking within its bounds the eſtate of Ham, the houſe of which has been rebuilt in a handſome manner within theſe few years, and thence ſouthward to Runham-place, Platt-heath, and Leverton-ſtreet, at the boundary of it, near the quarry hills, where it joins to Boughton Malherb.

The weſtern and ſouth-eaſt parts of this pariſh are watered by two ſeveral ſtreams, for at the eaſtern extremity of the town of Lenham, at Streetwell, there riſes a ſpring, which is accounted the head of the river Stour, which flowing from thence ſouthward by Royton-chapel, at about a mile diſtance from its riſe, receives into its ſtream two other ſmall ones from the north-weſt, which riſe in the grounds at Chilſton, at a ſmall diſtance from each other, and then flowing in one ſtream through the hamlet of Water-ſtreet ſouth-eaſtward, it turns a mill in its way to Little Chart, and ſo goes on in its way to Aſhford and Canterbury.

A head of one of the branches of the river Medway likewiſe riſes at Ewell, adjoining to Bigon-heath, in the weſtern part of this pariſh, whence it is frequently called the river Len; from hence this ſtream directs its courſe firſt weſtward, then northward by Runham, and ſo on to Holme mill in Harrietſham, in its way towards Leeds-caſtle and the main river at Maidſtone.

LENHAM has been ſuppoſed by ſeveral of our learned antiquaries, among whom are Camden, Lambarde, and Gale, to have been the Roman ſtation, mentioned

in the 2d *iter* of Antonine, by the name of *Durolevum*, corruptly, as they ſay, for *Durolenum*, and the latter, in the Britiſh language, ſignifying *the water Lenum*, induced them, together with the ſituation, to conjecture this place to have been that ſtation.

And Camden is further confirmed in this opinion, from this place being ſituated on a circular way of the Romans, which formerly, as Higden of Cheſter affirms, went from Dover through the middle of Kent.[1]

The *aqua Lena*, or the ſpring at Streetwell here, ſo called perhaps from the *ſtrata* of the Romans, which led hither, is thought to have been meant by the water *Lenum*, and that this, might give name to this ſtation; and indeed Roman remains have been from time to time diſcovered from Keſton, by Comb Bank, Stone-ſtreet, Oldberry camp, Otham, Barming, Maidſtone, Boxley, &c. in a continued and almoſt ſtrait line, to within a few miles of this place and Charing.

But there having never been any Roman antiquities found at Lenahm, induced Mr. Somner and others to look elſewhere for this ſtation. That learned antiquarian, as well as Mr. Button and Dr. Thorpe, have fixed it at or near Newington, in the great road from Rocheſter to Canterbury, near which great quantities of urns, and other relics of Roman antiquity, have been dug up.

Mr. Talbot heſitates between Sittingborne and Charing, and Dr. Stukeley, changing his opinion, having firſt adopted Newington, afterwards adheres to the latter.

Dr. Horſley ſays, ſhould he abandon Lenham, and ſuppoſe it only to be a *notitia* way, he ſhould tranſfer this ſtation to the north ſide of the preſent great London road to Dover, and ſuppoſe it to be a ſhort and direct excurſion, like that of *Tripontium* in the 6th *iter*, the diſtance on each hand requiring the excurſion to be made about Sittingborne, or perhaps Milton. But

[1] See Gale on Antonine, p. 76. Camd. Brit. p. 228.

ſhould

ſhould this ſtation be transferred to near Faverſham, in the vicinity of which, as well on Juddes-hill, on the great road, half a mile weſt of Oſpringe, or at Davington, about a mile north-eaſt of it, many Roman coins, urns, and other relics of antiquity, have been found within theſe few years, and on the former, there are ſtill remaining at the back of Juddes-houſe, a ſmall diſtance north of the high road, juſt within the wood, the *veſtigia* of a ſtrong Roman work, there need not be any tranſpoſition of numbers, nor alteration of them in the greateſt part of the copies of Antonine's Itinerary, for the diſtances will every way tally with them.

After every argument that can be made uſe of, the whole is ſo much conjecture, as appears from every one of theſe learned men altering the diſtances in the Itinerary in favor of his own hypotheſis, that it is but fair at laſt to leave it to the reader's own judgment to fix each of theſe ſtations where he thinks it moſt proper.

In the year 804, Cenulf, king of Mercia, and Cudred, king of Kent, granted this manor, afterwards diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Weſt Lenham*, to Wernod, abbot of St. Auguſtine's, near Canterbury, by the deſcription of certain land called Lenham, containing twenty plough-lands, and twelve denns bearing acorns in the Weald; which eſtate was augmented in the year 139 by Athelwolf, king of the Weſt Saxons and of Kent, who, in conſideration of 2100 mares of ſilver, *(mancuſæ)* granted to the abbot five plough lands at Lenham, then called Eſtlenham, and lying between the place called Scelfe towards the eaſt, and Lenham towards the weſt. And in 850, he made a further gift to the abbot, of forty tenements, with land *(Caſſata)* at Lenham, in pure and perpetual alms.

What part of theſe eſtates continued in the poſſeſſion of the abbot and convent of St. Auguſtine at the taking the general ſurvey of Domeſday, the following entry in it, under the general title of the lands of the

church of St. Auguſtine, ſhews, though it does not ſeem to amount to ſo large a quantity as what is deſcribed in the above-mentioned donations; probably the biſhop of Baieux had wreſted ſome of theſe lands from it, as it appears by that ſurvey, that he became poſſeſſed of lands in this pariſh about that time.

In Haiborne hundred, the abbot (of St. Auguſtine) himſelf holds Lertham, which was taxed at five ſulings and an half. The arable land is eighteen carucates. In demeſne there are two carucates, and forty villeins, with ſeven borderers, having ſixteen carucates. There is one ſervant, and two mills of ſix ſhillings and eight pence, and eight acres of meadow, and wood for forty hogs.

In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth twenty-eight pounds, and afterwards ſixteen pounds, now twenty-eight pounds.

Of this manor Robert Latin holds one yoke, which is worth five ſhillings.

In the above deſcription the reader will obſerve that not only here, but in many other parts of Domeſday, how much the Norman ſcribes, who took the names of the ſeveral places from the mouths of the Saxons, whoſe pronunciation could not be fit to dictate to foreigners, miſtook the orthography of them, inſomuch that many of them are hardly now to be aſcertained without conjecture.

The poſſeſſions of the abbot and convent were afterwards increaſed in this pariſh by king Edward I. and II. granting them licence to purchaſe lands in this pariſh, and there were ſeveral different lands given to them, among which were lands called Sornden, on condition of their paying yearly the ſingular rent of one cuſtard in the church-yard of Lenham.[g]

In the 8th year of king Richard II. the temporalities of the abbot in Lenham, with appurtenances, were

[g] Regiſt. Sci Aug. court, 406, 411, 417, 424, 430, 440. See alſo Stev. Mon. vol. ii. p. 39.

valued

valued at 54l. 14s. 10d. per annum, at which time he poſſeſſed in this pariſh, as appears by an admeaſurement then made, nine hundred and thirty ſix acres of arable land and wood.

In the *iter* of H. de Stanton and his ſociates, juſtices itinerant, anno 7 Edward II. the abbot was ſummoned by *quo warranto*, to ſhew why he claimed ſundry liberties, therein mentioned, in the manor of Lenham, among others, and *free-warren* in all his demeſne lands of it, and *view of frank-pledge*, and all belonging to it; and a market here weekly on a Tueſday, with all liberties and free cuſtoms belonging to it; and the abbot pleaded, that thoſe liberties had been granted by the charters of king John and the ſucceeding kings, to the abbot and convent, in pure and perpetual alms; that thoſe charters had been all allowed in the *iter* of J. de Berewick, anno 21 Edward I. and likewiſe in the 7th year of Edward II. before Henry de Stanton, and his ſociates, juſtices itinerant in this county.

King Edward III. in his 5th year, anno 1330, exempted the men and tenants of the manor of Lenham from their attendance at *the turne* of the ſheriff, heretofore made by the borſholder, with four men of each borough within it; and directed his writ that for the future they ſhould be allowed to perform the ſame with one only out of each.

And by his charter of *inſpeximus*, in his 36th year, he confirmed to the monaſtery all the manors and poſſeſſions, and the ſeveral grants of liberties and confirmation made by the ſeveral kings his predeceſſors, among which are thoſe above-mentioned. After which king Henry VI. confirmed the ſeveral liberties granted to this monaſtery, and likewiſe *free-warren*, and one fair at Leneham on the feaſt of St. Auguſtine, the apoſtle of the Engliſh.[1]

[1] Rot. Cart. de 21 uſq. ad 24 an. ejus Regni, N. 11, Tanner, Monaſt. p. 206. Cart. 11 Edward III. N. 18.

This manor remained part of the poſſeſſions of the monaſtery till its final diſſolution in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when this great abbey, with all its revenues, was ſurrendered into the king's hands.

The manor of Lenham remained in the crown till queen Elizabeth granted it to William Cecil, lord Burleigh, lord treaſurer and her chief miniſter of ſtate, to whoſe prudence and wiſdom in council, the bleſſings this kingdom enjoyed during that proſperous and happy reign are chiefly to be attributed.

He alienated this manor, in the 18th year of that reign, to Thomas Wilford, eſq. of Cranbrook, whoſe grandſon Henry Wilford, eſq.[k] at the latter end of king James I.'s reign conveyed it to Anthony Brown, viſcount Montague, who was deſcended from Sir Thomas Brown, treaſurer of the houſhold to Henry VI. who in right of his wife Eleanor, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Fitzalan, alias Arundel, brother of John, earl of Arundel, was poſſeſſed of the caſtle of Beechworth, in Surry, and bore for his arms, *Sable, three lions paſſant in bend, between two gemells argent.* He had by her five ſons and one daughter. Of the former, Sir George, the eldeſt, was of Beechworth-caſtle, and was anceſtor of the Browns of that place, baronets, now extinct; and Anthony, the third ſon, was ſeated at Cowdray, in Suſſex, and was anceſtor of the late lord viſcount Montague.

Anthony Brown, viſcount Montague, died poſſeſſed of this manor in 1629, and his grandſon Henry, viſcount Montague, with the concurrence of his ſon and heir Anthony, alienated it to the hon. Elizabeth Hamilton, the widow of James Hamilton, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of Sir George Hamilton, of Tyrone, in Ireland, and a baronet of Nova Scotia, who was the fourth ſon of James, firſt earl of Abercorn, and bore for his arms, *Gules, three cinquefoils pierced ermine, quartered with*

[k] See under Hartridge in Cranbrooke, and Ilden in Kingſton.

argent,

argent, a ſhip with ſails furled up, with a proper difference, they being the arms of the earls of Abercorn.[1]

She was the eldeſt daughter of John, lord Colepeper, and ſurviving her huſband, who died in 1673, reſided at Chilſton, in the adjoining pariſh of Boughton, which ſhe had likewiſe purchaſed. She died in 1709, and was buried at Hollingborne, leaving two ſons ſurviving, James, earl of Abercorn, and William Hamilton, eſq. of Chilſton, to the latter of whom ſhe by her will gave the manor of Lenham, with the reſt of her eſtates in this pariſh and neighbourhood. He was one of the five Kentiſh gentlemen, who in 1701, delivered to the houſe of commons a petition from the deputy-lieutenants, juſtices, grand jury, and freeholders of this county, deſiring that the houſe would turn their loyal addreſſes into bills of ſupply, &c. Which petition being voted inſolent and ſeditious, they were ordered into the cuſtody of the ſergeant-at-arms, and thence priſoners to the gate-houſe, where they remained till the end of the ſeſſions. The other four petitioners were, William Colepeper, Thomas Colepeper, David Polhill, and Juſtinian Champneis.

By Margaret, ſecond daughter of Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Hollingborne, he had ſeveral children, of whom John Hamilton, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, was of Chilſton, where he kept his ſhrievalty in 1719. He, with the concurrence of his eldeſt ſon William, joined in the ſale of this manor to Thomas Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, who dying *ſ. p.* in 1793, gave it by will among his other eſtates, to his nephew George Beſt, eſq. now of Chilſton, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

A court leet and court baron is held for this manor.

ROYTON, vulgarly called *Rayton*, is a manor in this pariſh, ſituated at a ſmall diſtance eaſtward from Chilſton, the manſion of which had a free chapel annexed to it, the ruins of which ſtill remain.

[1] See Iriſh Peerage, vol. iii. p. 156 et ſeq.

In the year 1259, anno 44 Henry III. this manor was in the poſſeſſion of Simon Fitzalan; in which year a final agreement was made in the King's court at Weſtminſter, between Roger, abbot of St. Auguſtine, and the ſaid Simon, concerning the cuſtoms and ſervices which the abbot demanded of him for his free tenement, which he held of him in Royton, viz. one marc of ſilver yearly, and ſuit at the court of Lenham, which ſuit the abbot releaſed to him on his agreeing to pay the rent above-mentioned, and ſuit at the court of St. Auguſtine, at Canterbury.

His ſucceſſor was Robert de Royton, who moſt probably aſſumed his name from his poſſeſſions at this place. He founded a free chapel here, and annexed it to the manſion, which thence acquired the name of Royton chapel.

In which name it continued till the reign of king Henry VI. when, by an only daughter and heir, it went in marriage to James Dryland, eſq. of Davington, whoſe daughter and ſole heir Conſtance, having married to Sir Thomas Walſingham, of Cheſilhurſt, entitled her huſband to the poſſeſſion of it, and he died poſſeſſed of it anno 7 Edward IV.[m] and one of his deſcendants, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry VIII. alienated this manor to Edward Myllys, who did homage to the abbot of St. Auguſtine's for it as half a knight's fee, which he had lately purchaſed in Royton, near Lenham. He bore for his arms, *Party per feſs, ſable and argent, a pale and three bears erect, counterchanged, collared and chained, or,*[n] from which name it was not long afterwards ſold to Robert Atwater, whoſe arms were, *Sable, a feſs wavy, voided azure, between three ſwans, proper,* who leaving two daughters and coheirs, Mary, the youngeſt of them, carried it, with other eſtates at Charing and elſewhere in this neighbourhood, to Robert Honywood, eſq. of Henewood, in Poſtling,

[m] See Chiſelhurſt, vol. ii. p. 7. [n] Pedigree of Darell.

eldeſt

eldeſt ſon of John Honywood, eſq. by his ſecond wife, daughter of Barnes, of Wye.

He afterwards reſided at Pett in Charing, part of his wife's inheritance, and dying in 1576, was buried in Lenham church, bearing for his arms thoſe of Honywood, *with a creſcent, gules, for difference.* He left a numerous iſſue by his wife, who ſurvived him near forty-four years, and dying in 1620, in the ninety-third year of her age, was buried near him, though a monument is erected to her memory at Markſhall, in Eſſex. She had, as has been ſaid, at her deceaſe, lawfully deſcended from her 367 children, 16 of her own body, 114 grand-children, 228 in the third generation, and nine in the fourth. Their eldeſt ſon Robert Honywood, of Charing, and afterwards of Markſhall, in Eſſex, was twice married; firſt to Dorothy, daughter of John Crook, LL. D. by whom he had one ſon, Sir Robert Honywood, of Charing, and a daughter Dorothy, married to Henry Thomſon, gent. His ſecond wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Brown, of Beechworth-caſtle, in Surry, by whom he had ſeveral ſons and daughters; the eldeſt of whom, Thomas, was of Markſhall, in Eſſex, eſq. and father of John Le Mott Honywood, eſq. of that place.

Sir Robert Honywood, on his death, deviſed the manor of Royton to Dorothy, his daughter by his firſt wife, married to Mr. Henry Thomſon, the ſecond ſon of Mr. Tho. Thomſon, of Sandwich, and younger brother of T. Thomſon, eſq. of Kenfield, in Petham, who afterwards reſided at Royton, bearing for his arms, *Gules, two bars argent, a chief ermine, a creſcent for difference.*[o] His ſurviving ſon Anthony, was of Royton, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1682, leaving an only daughter Dorothy, who carried it in marriage to Richard Criſpe, gent. of Maidſtone, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to William Criſpe, gent. of Royton,

[o] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree Thomſon.

who

who died in 1761, and by his will deviſed it to his ſurviving wife Elizabeth, for her life; and the fee of it to his nephew Samuel Belcher, who dying unmarried and inteſtate, his intereſt in it deſcended to his only brother Peter Belcher, and he by his will in 1772 deviſed it to his brother-in-law, Mr. John Foſter, in fee. Mrs. Elizabeth Criſpe, before-mentioned, died in 1778, and this eſtate then came into the poſſeſſion of Mr. John Foſter, who afterwards ſold it to Thomas Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, on whoſe death, *ſ. p.* in 1793, it came by his will, among his other eſtates, to his nephew George Beſt, eſq. now of Chilſton, the preſent owner of it.

RUNHAM is a manor, ſituated at the ſouth-weſt extremity of this pariſh, which, with the manſion of it, called Runham-place, was formerly belonging to the family of Bunce, of Otterden.

Stephen Bunce, ſon of James Bunce, eſq. of Otterden, died poſſeſſed of it in 1634. He was firſt of Boughton Malherb, whoſe eldeſt ſon Matthew, inherited this manor,[p] which he afterwards ſold to Burton, from whom it deſcended to his grandſon Mr. Samuel Burton, who reſided here, and married Anne Belcher, who joined with him in the ſale of this eſtate, a fine being levied for that purpoſe, to Thomas Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, who continued in poſſeſſion of it till the year 1774, when Samuel Burton, the youngeſt and only ſurviving child of the above marriage, claimed this eſtate by virtue of an entail made of it; and on a proof of his mother's marriage, had a verdict in his favor, on a trial had that year; upon which he took poſſeſſion of it, and afterwards ſold it to Mr. Beſt above-mentioned, the former purchaſer of it, by whoſe will it came with his other eſtates in 1793, to his nephew George Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, the preſent owner of it.

[p] See more of them under Otterden, and Visn. co. of Kent, 1619, pedigree Bunce.

ASHDEN,

ASHDEN, formerly called *Esseden*, is a small manor in the northern part of this parish, which at the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, was the property of Edward Jackman, esq. of Hornchurch, in Essex, and he in the 5th year of king James I. passed it away to Oliver Style, esq. of Watringbury, whose son Thomas was created a baronet, and died in 1637, leaving this manor to his only son and successor Sir Thomas Style, bart. who died in 1702; on which an agreement was entered into by his heirs, for a partition of his estates among them, which was confirmed by an act, passed anno 2 and 3 queen Anne. In this partition, the manor of Ashden was allotted, with Frinsted and other estates, to Margaret, his only daughter by his second wife, who in 1716 alienated it to Mr. Abraham Tilghman, whose son Abraham Tilghman, esq. of Frinsted, died in 1779, leaving by Olivia, one of the daughters and coheirs of Charles Finch, esq. of Chatham, one daughter his heir, married to the Rev. Mr. Pierrepont Cromp, of Frinsted, who died in 1797, and his heirs are now possessed of it.

THE REMAINING, OR NORTH-EAST PART of this parish is situated within *the lath of Shipway*, and *hundred of Calehill*, in which is the manor of East Lenham.

ALTHOUGH the abbot and convent of St. Augustine possessed an estate in East Lenham, consisting of five plough-lands, by the gift of king Athelwolf in the year 839, as has been already mentioned, yet the manor itself never belonged to that monastery; but was given in the year 961, by queen Ediva, mother of king Edmund and Edred, to Christ-church, in Canterbury, free from all secular service, except the repairing of bridges and the building of fortifications.

Archbishop Lanfranc, who came to the see of Canterbury in 1070, gave this manor to one Godifrid, surnamed Dapifer, who held it of him by knights service; accordingly it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday,

day, under the general title of *Terra Militum Archiepi*, or land held of the archbiſhop by knights ſervice:

In Calehell hundred, Godefrid Dapifer holds of the archbiſhop Lenham. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is . . . In demeſne there are two carucates, and fifteen villeins, with two borderers, having four carucates. There are four ſervants, and ſix acres of meadow, and one mill of ſeven ſhillings, and wood for the pannage of ten hogs. In the whole it was worth eight pounds, and yet it pays twelve pounds and ten ſhillings.

It was afterwards held of the archbiſhop in like manner by knight's ſervice, by the family of Lenham, who took their name from their poſſeſſions here, and bore for their arms the ſame as thoſe borne by Peyforer. Roger de Lenham held this eſtate in king John's reign, as appears by the returns made to the king's treaſurer in the 12th and 13th years of that reign, of all thoſe who held by knight's ſervice and *in capite*. Nicholas de Lenham, his deſcendant, held it in the next reign of king Henry III. in the 35th year of which he fined to the king for a charter of liberties, for his lands in this county.[q]

John de Lenham held it in like manner of the archbiſhop in the reign of king Edward I. of whom it was again held by Roger de Handlo, whoſe deſcendant Simon de Handlo held it in the 20th year of Edward III. holding it of the archbiſhop as half a knight's fee.

In later times the manor of Eaſt Lenham was in poſſeſſion of the Hornes, but whether deſcended from thoſe of Hornes-place, in Kenardinton, I have not found.

John Horne, eſq. was of Eaſt Lenham, in the reigns of king Henry V. and VI. in whoſe family it continued till John Horne, gent. of Eaſt Lenham, leaving an only daughter and heir Alice, ſhe carried it in marriage to John Proffit, gent. of Barcombe, in Suſſex, who

[q] See Madox's Exchequer, p. 687.

bore

bore for his arms, *Argent, a lion rampant, and ſemee of eſcallops, ſable*, whoſe ſole daughter and heir Elizabeth, widow of Richard Manfield, gent. of Middleſex, entitled her huſband, John Chauncy, eſq. of Hertfordſhire, to this manor, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1546, and was buried in the church of Sawbridgeworth. He was anceſtor of Sir Henry Chauncy, ſerjeant-at-law, the hiſtorian, and bore for his arms, *Gules, a croſs patonce, argent, on a chief, azure, a lion paſſant, or*, which he quartered with thoſe of Horne, *Argent, on a chevron gules, between three bugle horns, ſable, three mullets or.* his eldeſt ſon, Robert, having taken on himſelf the habit of a Carthuſian, Henry, the ſecond ſon, became poſſeſſed of all his father's eſtates.

After which this manor paſſed by ſale into the family of Knatchbull, of Merſham-hatch, in this county; of whom, Sir Norton Knatchbull, was created a baronet in 1641, and in his deſcendants it has continued down to Sir Edward Knatchbull, bart. now of Merſham-hatch, and the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor.[r]

THERE WAS AN ESTATE formerly part of the demeſnes of this manor, which was for ſeveral generations in the poſſeſſion of the family of Huſſey. Henry Huſſey had a charter of *free warren* for his lands at Chilſton, Eaſt Lenham, and Stourmouth, in the 55th year of king Henry III. and from him the property of this eſtate deſcended down to Henry Huſſey, who about the latter end of king Henry VIII. paſſed it away to John Parkhurſt, deſcended from an antient family of that name in Norfolk, one of whom, John Parkhurſt, was conſecrated biſhop of Norwich in 1560. His deſcendant Sir William Parkhurſt, in the reign of king Charles I. alienated it to Mr. Wood, of London, merchant, who poſſeſſed it at the reſtoration of king Charles II. From this name it paſſed by ſale to Edward Hales, eſq. of Chilſton, whoſe three daughters

[r] See more of this family under Merſham.

and

and coheirs, in 1698, conveyed it to the hon. Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton; ſince which it has paſſed, in like manner as Chilſton, in Boſton Malherbe, to George Beſt, eſq. of Chilſton, the preſent owner of it.

Archbishop Lanfranc, in the time of the Conqueror, gave *the tithes of his whole manor of Lenham*, which he had given to Godfrid, as has been already mentioned, to the priory of St. Gregory, in Canterbury, which had been founded by him in 1084. Which gift was confirmed by archbiſhop Hubert, among the reſt of the poſſeſſions of that priory, with which this portion of tithes remained till the diſſolution of it in the 27th year of king Henry VIII. when not having the clear yearly income of two hundred pounds, it was diſſolved by the act of that year, and was ſurrendered into the king's hands. After which the king granted theſe tithes, with the ſcite, and moſt of the poſſeſſions of St. Gregory's priory, to the archbiſhop of Canterbury in exchange, in purſuance of an act which had paſſed for that purpoſe.

The parſonage of Eaſt Lenham becoming thus part of the poſſeſſions of the ſee of Canterbury, was let by the archbiſhop, among the reſt of the revenues of the priory of St. Gregory, in one great leaſe for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of fifty-five pounds.

In 1643, Sir Robert Honywood, of Charing, was head leſſee of theſe premiſes. Philip, earl of Cheſterfield, afterwards held it, as heir to the Wottons, after whoſe deceaſe, *ſ. p.* in 1773, the leaſe of them was ſold by his executors to George Gipps, eſq. of Canterbury, M. P. for that city, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of it; but Sir Edward Knatchbull, bart. owner of Eaſt Lenham manor, is *the preſent leſſee* under him, for the parſonage of Eaſt Lenham, at the yearly rent of ſeventeen pounds.

There are three different manors in the *north-eaſt* part of this pariſh, called in the time of the Saxons,

Saxons, *Scelfe*, afterwards *Selve*, and now SHELVE, diſtinguiſhed from each other by their different ſituations.

Theſe manors were part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands they are thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken about the year 1080.

Adam Fitzhubert holds of the biſhop of Baieux, Eſt Selve. It was taxed at half a ſuling. The arable land is one carucate, and there is in demeſne . . . . . together with one villein, and one borderer, and five ſervants. There are four acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of four hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth twenty ſhillings. Godric held it of king Edward.

William Fitzrobert holds of the biſhop of Baieux, Weſt Selve. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is three carucates and an half. In demeſne there are two, and a certain Frenchman, with ten villeins, and one borderer, having one carucate and an half. There are five ſervants, and one acre of meadow, and one mill of fifteen pence. Wood for the pannage of fifteen hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth four pounds. Eddid held it of king Edward. To this manor there belonged in Canterbury, in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, one houſe paying twenty-five pence.

Hugh, grandſon of Herbert, holds of the biſhop of Baieux, Eſt Selve. It was taxed at half a ſuling. The arable land is one carucate, and there is in demeſne . . . with one villein, and one borderer, and two ſervants. There are four acres of meadow, and wood for the pannage of four hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth forty ſhillings. Ulviet held it of king Edward.

The firſt of theſe eſtates deſcribed above, ſeems intended for that which is now known by the name of

Old

Old Shelve, the ſecond for that called *Weſt Shelve*, and the laſt for *Cobham*, alias *Eaſt Shelve*.

After the biſhop of Baieux's diſgrace, about four years after taking the above-mentioned ſurvey, all his eſtates were confiſcated to the crown, after which

THE MANOR OF WEST, *alias* NEW SHELVE, ſo called from its ſituation in regard to the others, and to diſtinguiſh it from the adjoining manor of *Old Shelve*, became part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Criol, one of whom Bertram de Criol held it in the reign of Henry III. in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to John de Criol, who dying *ſ. p.* in the reign of king Edward I. Joane his ſiſter became his heir, and carried this manor among the reſt of her inheritance, in marriage to Sir Richard de Rokeſle, ſeneſchal and governor of Poitou and Montreul, in Picardy, who left two daughters his coheirs, of whom Agnes the eldeſt married Thomas de Poynings; and Joane the youngeſt, firſt, Hugh de Pateſhull, and ſecondly, Sir William le Baud, nevertheleſs, they did not inherit this manor, which deſcended to a younger branch of the family of Rokeſle, and it afterwards, on failure of iſſue, devolved as next of kin, in like manner as Ruxley heretofore deſcribed, by reaſon of the above marriage to the family of Poynings, in which it continued till Sir Ed. Poynings, dying in the 14th year of Henry VIIIth's reign, without legitimate iſſue, and even without any collateral kindred who could make claim to his eſtates, this manor among the reſt of his poſſeſſions eſcheated to the crown.

Soon after which, the king granted this manor to John Millys, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 17th year of that reign,[1] the ſame being held by knight's ſervice, of the abbot of St. Auguſtine, in right of his abbey. He was ſucceeded by James Milles, his ſon and heir, by whoſe only daughter Joane, this manor of Weſt Shelve

[1] His will, proved in Prerogative office in Canterbury.

went

went in marriage to Nicholas Darell, ſecond ſon of Sir James Darell, of Calehill, who afterwards reſided here. He died in 1564, leaving two ſons, of whom Anthony the ſecond ſon ſeems to have at length poſſeſſed this manor, and leaving an only daughter and heir Anne, ſhe entitled her huſband William Wilkinſon to it. He died in 1618, and was buried in this church. He was ſon and heir of Richard, who was one of the clerks in chancery, and owner of Watringbury manor in this county; and in his deſcendants it continued down to John Wilkinſon, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of it in 1713, without ſurviving iſſue.

Upon which it became the property of Mr. John Dering, of Chalk, on whoſe marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Milles, eſq. of the Inner Temple, he had, by deed, in 1713, in which he ſtiled him his couſin and adopted heir, ſettled this manor, with his other eſtates in this pariſh, to him and his iſſue by her in tail male. Mr. John Dering above-mentioned, was, if I miſtake not, deſcended from John Dering, of Egerton, ſixth ſon of John Dering, eſq. of Surrenden, in the reign of king Henry VIII. by Margaret, his wife, ſiſter and heir of Thomas Brent, eſq. of Charing. He was of Weſt Shelve, gent. and dying poſſeſſed of this manor in 1724, was buried in this church.

On his death, Henry his eldeſt ſon ſucceeded to this manor, and was of Aſhford, in this county. He married Heſter Wightwick, of New Romney, by whom he left eight children, viz. Mary, married firſt to Mr. John Maſcall, and ſecondly, to Mr. Joſiah Pattenſon, both of Aſhford; Heſter, to Mr. William Loſtie, of Canterbury; Elizabeth to Mr. Baker Coates, of New Romney; John Dering, of Canterbury, who married Roſe Hatley; Henry; Martha, married firſt to Whitfield, and ſecondly, to Henry Creed, of Aſhford; Edward, who married Mary Sweetlove; and George; and having cut off the entail of this eſtate, he, by his will deviſed this manor, by the name of Weſt Shelve,

alias Royton, in equal ſhares among his children before mentioned, who are now entitled to it, excepting John Dering and George, who alienated their reſpective intereſts in it to their only ſurviving uncle, Mr. Edward Dering, of Doddington, who died in 1786, and his widow Mrs. Margaret Dering is at this time poſſeſſed of them. Theſe Derings bear for their arms, *Or, a ſaltier, ſable, a creſcent for difference*; but this is not their proper bearing, for that is, *Or, a ſaltier, ſable, a chief, gules*; each of the younger branches of John Dering, by Margaret Brent, his wife, bearing for diſtinction, *A chief over the ſaltier*, but differently blazoned.

A court leet was formerly held for this manor, but it has been long ſince diſcontinued.

At New Shelve houſe in 1755, I ſaw a curfew, or *coverfew*, much of the ſame ſort as that, lately belonging to Mr. Goſtling, of Canterbury, and of which a plate may be ſeen in the Antiquarian Repertory, vol. i. p. 89, which had been in the manor houſe here, time out of mind, and had always been known by this name. They were firſt made uſe of in the time of the Conqueror, who commanded, that at the ringing of a bell every evening at eight o'clock, which is ſtill called *the curfew bell* from thence, all lights ſhould be put out, and the fires covered up. King Henry I. commanded the uſe of lights to be reſtored. *The curfew bell* is ſtill rung at eight o'clock in moſt market towns and places of reſort.[1]

THE MANOR OF OLD SHELVE lies adjoining to the laſt deſcribed manor, eaſtward. It was formerly called likewiſe *Middle*, alias *Red Shelve*, and after the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, came into the poſſeſſion of a family, which aſſumed its ſurname from it. Anuſius de Selves held it in the reign of king Henry III. and had licence to change his ſervice from ſergeantry to

[1] See Dugd. Orig. p. 8. Stow's Annals, anno 1100.

knight's

knight's ſervice,[n] his deſcendant William de Shelve paid aid for this manor in the 20th year of Edward III. as half a knight's fee, which he then held of the earl of Albermarle, and he of the king. It afterwards moſt probably paſſed into the family of Poynings, and eſcheated to the crown in like manner as the laſt deſcribed manor of Weſt Shelve, on the death of Sir Edward Poynings, without heirs, in the 14th year of king Henry VIII. Soon after which it was granted with that manor to John Millys, and afterwards paſſed in like manner with it to William Wilkinſon, one of whoſe deſcendants paſſed it away by ſale to Plomer, from which name it was alienated to Dr. Ludwell, late of Oriel college, Oxford, whoſe widow Mrs. Elizabeth Ludwell, gave it by her will to Benjamin Francis Tribe, eſq. with an injunction for him to take the name of Poole, for which he obtained an act anno 5 king George III.

Francis Tribe Poole, eſq. was afterwards of Charing, and in 1772 ſold this manor to Mr. John Winder, the preſent proprietor of it, together with that of Marſhall adjoining to it.

THE MANOR OF EAST SHELVE, alias SHELVE COBHAM, lies at the foot of the chalk hills, eaſtward of that laſt deſcribed.

After the biſhop of Baieux's diſgrace, this manor came into the poſſeſſion of the family of Cobham, of Cobham, in this county. Henry de Cobham, in the reign of king John, left three ſons; John, who ſucceeded him at Cobham; Reginald; and William, called Cobham of Aldington, a juſtice itinerant in Henry the IIId.'s reign, which laſt inherited this manor, and died in the 14th year of Edward II. and, as it ſhould ſeem, *ſ. p.* for Reginald his nephew, ſtiled likewiſe Cobham of Aldington, ſon of his eldeſt brother John de Cobham, of Cobham, by his ſecond wife Joane de

[n] Roll of knight's fees in the Exchequer.

Nevill, ſucceeded him in it. He lived in the reign of king Edward II. and left by Joane his wife, daughter and heir of William de Hever, a ſon Reginald de Cobham, in whoſe deſcendants of the name of Reginald likewiſe, ſeated at Sterborough-caſtle in Surry, this manor continued down to Reginald, lord Cobham, of Sterborough, who died poſſeſſed of it about the 24th year of king Henry VI.* leaving Sir Thomas Cobham, his then only ſon, his heir, who likewiſe died in the 11th year of king Edward IV. poſſeſſed of this manor, which from the length of time which this family had been proprietors of it, was now uſually known by the name of Shelve Cobham, alias Eaſt Shelve, which his only daughter and ſole heir Anne, carried in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, of Gainſborough, in Lincolnſhire, whoſe ſon and heir Thomas, lord Burgh, procured his lands to be *diſgavelled* by the act of the 31ſt of king Henry VIII. His ſon William, lord Burgh, in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth, ſold this manor to John Pakenham, who in the 35th year of that reign, alienated it to Boteler, in which name it remained till the 5th year of king Charles I. when it was paſſed away by ſale to Sir John Melton, whoſe ſon John Melton, eſq. ſoon after the death of that prince, ſold it to Mr. Solomon Adye, from which name it paſſed into that of Wilkinſon, whoſe deſcendant John Wilkinſon, eſq. died poſſeſſed of it, as well as New Shelve, in 1713, without ſurviving iſſue. Since which it has paſſed in the ſame ſucceſſion of ownerſhip as that manor, to the preſent time, to the deſcription of which before, p. 433, the reader is referred.

THE MANOR OF DOWNE, or *Downe-court*, as it is now uſually called, is ſituated in the northern part of this pariſh, on the ſummit of the chalk hills. In the reign of king Henry III. it had owners which aſſumed

* Rot. Eſch. ejus an. See a full account of this branch of Cobham under Chidingſtone, vol. iii. p. 211.

their

their ſurname from it. Hamo de la Dune then held it as half a knight's fee, as did Laurence, heir of Robert de la Downe, in the 20th year of Edward III. when he paid aid for it as half a knight's fee, in which name it continued to John Downe, who reſided here, in the 6th year of Edward IV. and left two ſons, John and Thomas Downe, to both of whom he by his will deviſed this eſtate, which had then loſt all reputation of being a manor. How it paſſed afterwards I have not found; but Robert Atwater, of Royton, in this pariſh, died poſſeſſed of it in 1565, and his daughter and coheir Mary, carried it, with other eſtates in this pariſh and neighbourhood, in marriage to Robert Honywood, eſq. of Poſtling. He died in 1576, leaving a numerous iſſue by her; of whom Robert Honywood, eſq. of Charing and of Markſhall, in Eſſex, the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in this eſtate, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Philip Honywood, eſq. of Markſhall, a general in the army, who married Eliz. Waſtell, but died *ſ. p.* 1785, having by his will given this, among his other eſtates in this county and in Eſſex, to his kinſman, Filmer Honywood, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of the late Sir John Honywood, bart. by his ſecond wife Dorothy Filmer. He is now of Markſhall, in Eſſex, and is unmarried, having been M. P. for this county in the laſt two ſucceſſive parliaments, and is the preſent owner of this eſtate.

At some distance north-weſtward from Downe-court, in the valley on the eaſt ſide of the road leading from Doddington to Hollingborne hill, at the extreme bounds of this pariſh, lies an eſtate called Syndall, but more properly *Syndane*, which, as appears by the evidences belonging to it, as high as the reign of king John and king Henry III. was the inheritance of a family of that ſurname, who were gentlemen of ſome note in theſe parts; but they continued owners of it for no long time afterwards, for in the 23d year of king Edward III. Fulk de Peyforer was poſſeſſed of

it; from which name it was alienated, before the end of that reign, to Henman, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Allen Henman, who ſold the manſion-houſe and principal part of the eſtate, in the reign of queen Anne, to Sir Robert Furneſe, bart. of Walderſhare, and he died poſſeſſed of it in 1733, being ſucceeded in title and eſtate by his only ſon, Sir Henry Furneſe, bart. who ſurvived him but a ſmall time, and dying abroad in 1735, under age and unmarried, his eſtates, by virtue of the limitations in his grandfather's will became veſted in his three ſiſters, as the three daughters and coheirs of his father Sir Rob. Furneſe, in equal ſhares and proportions, *in coparcenary in tail general*, and afterwards, by a decree of the court of chancery, anno 9 George II. a writ of partition was agreed to by them, which was confirmed by an act paſſed the next year, in which this farm of Syndall, among other premiſes, was allotted to Selina, the third daughter, who afterwards married Edward Dering, eſq. who ſurvived his wife, and afterwards ſucceeded his father in the title of baronet. He continued in the poſſeſſion of this eſtate till the year 1779, when he conveyed it by ſale, in which his ſon Edward Dering, eſq. joined, to Mr. William Hills, of Boughton Blean, who is the preſent proprietor of it.

CHARITIES.

Six alms-houſes, and a houſe for a governor, were founded by Anthony Honywood, eſq. of Langley, in this county; for the building and endowing of which, he gave an eſtate in 1622, to this pariſh for ever, directing 40l. per annum to be paid out of it to ſix poor people inhabiting the alms-houſes; and the remainder to be to the uſe of the governor, now veſted in the miniſter and churchwardens, and of the annual produce of 50l.

Three pounds per annum were given in 1720, by the Rev. Francis Robins, A. M. of Town Sutton, to the moſt indigent, honeſt, and induſtrious poor of Lenham, to be diſtributed yearly among them on March 11, by the miniſter and churchwardens, and now of that annual produce.

John

JOHN FOORD, late of Lenham, yeoman, by his will in 1766, gave to the miniſter and churchwardens of Lenham, and their ſucceſſors for ever, the ſum of 300l. the intereſt of it to be paid to a fit and proper ſchoolmaſter, to be appointed by the ſaid miniſter and churchwardens, to teach ten poor boys of Lenham, reading, writing, and accounts, now of the annual produce of 12l.

The poor conſtantly relieved are about 120, and caſually about 45.

LENHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary. It is a large handſome building, with a ſquare tower at the weſt end, in which is a good clock, which ſtrikes the hours and quarters, and a ſet of chimes. It conſiſts of two iſles, and two chancels; on the north ſide of the high chancel, in the hollow in the wall, there is a figure in long robes, lying at full length, which ſeems very antient, probably that of Thomas de Apulderfield, who lived in king Edward the IIId.'s reign, and was buried in this church. At the weſt end of the chancel, there are ſixteen ſtalls, eight on each ſide, though of a different ſize, for the uſe of the monks of St. Auguſtine's, when they viſited their eſtate in this pariſh, and for ſuch other of the clergy as ſhould be preſent at the ſervices of the church; and at a ſmall diſtance from them, on the ſouth ſide, a ſtone confeſſional chair.

The pulpit is an octagon, curiouſly carved in each compartment. There are ſeveral of the family of Honywood buried in this church; and memorials, among many others, for the Codds, Brockwells, Marſhalls, Baldocks, Dixons, and Perrys, of which laſt there is a memorial over James Perry, gent. once principal of Staples Inn, in 1577, and over, Anne his wife, daughter of Thomas Turner, of Sutton Valence, in 1593. They bore for their arms, *On a bend, three pears.* There are likewiſe memorials of the Thomſons and the Derings, and one for the hon. John Hamilton, in

1714. Thomas Horne, eſq. of Eaſt Lenham, by his will in 1471, proved in the Prerogative-office, in Canterbury, ordered his body to be buried in St. Edmund's chancel, in this church, before the altar there. At the eaſt end of the north iſle is a tomb of Betherſden marble, having on it this ſhield of arms, *Six croſs-croſlets, fitchee*; at the ſouth end of it, *a croſs-croſlet, fitchee*; on one ſide of which are *two creſcents one above the other*; and on the other ſide of it is *a bugle horn, hanging by a ſtring on the croſs-croſlet.* This tomb, however different the arms may be from thoſe of this family quartered by Chauncy as above-mentioned, it is not improbable might be erected for Tho. Horne, in St. Edmund's chancel, which might be in this part of the church. Weever ſays, Valentine Barrett and Cecile his wife, and likewiſe William Maries, eſquire to king Henry V. lie buried here; but it is a miſtake, for Preſton near Faverſham, in which church they lie buried.

The church of Lenham, as an appendage to the manor, became part of the poſſeſſions of the monaſtery of St. Auguſtine, above-mentioned, to which it was appropriated by pope Celeſtine III.* in the reign of king Richard I. towards the repleniſhing of the furniture of the refectory from time to time, which was afterwards confirmed by ſeveral popes and archbiſhops of Canterbury.

After which, a vicarage was endowed in this church by the abbot and convent, by which the vicar was entitled to receive the oblations and obventions commonly ariſing from the altarages, and the ſmall tithes, with the tithes of hay and of curtilages. But controverſies afterwards being likely to ariſe between them, concerning certain ſmall tithes of the paſture ground, and of the corn of certain lands really purchaſed by the abbot and convent out of their manor of Lenham, ſince the endowment, and the vicar aſſerting, that his

* See Dec. Scrip. col. 2097. Reg. Mon. Sti. Aug. Cart. 75.

vicarage

vicarage was overloaded with ordinary, as well as extraordinary burthens, humbly prayed of them ſome relief; the abbot and convent, therefore, willing to grant his petition, and to cut off all grounds of difference between them in future, and to provide for his portion more liberally, granted to him and his ſucceſſors, all the meſſuage, with its appurtenances, in which he then dwelt. And further, they releaſed to the vicar and his ſucceſſors, ten ſhillings annual rent, which they uſed to receive from the ſaid meſſuage; and they granted that he and his ſucceſſors ſhould receive and have for ever, twelve-pence yearly, which the prior and convent of Ledes, and in like manner two pounds of wax, which the prior and convent of St. Gregory's, in Canterbury, uſed yearly to offer on the great altar of the before-mentioned church; and they granted to him beſides, three ſeams of corn, viz. one of wheat and two of barley, to be taken yearly by him and his ſucceſſors, from them in their manor of Lenham, at the hands of their bailiff, at Michaelmas and Lady-day, by equal portions; ſo that the vicar and each of his ſucceſſors, thus content with the ſaid corn, ſhould in future carry away nothing in the name of tithe, or of his vicarage, of the ſheaves of any kind of corn, within curtilages or without, ariſing within the bounds of the pariſh. Adding likewiſe to his portion, that he and his ſucceſſors ſhould have every year two cows, feeding with their cows, in their paſture at Lenham, but not to go to their ſheep-cote, from the feaſt of St. Philip and St. James to the feaſt of St. Michael. They confirmed likewiſe to him and his ſucceſſors, the land called *Langebregge*, near Markewell, incloſed with hedges on every ſide, together with the appropriation of the tenement or meſſuage, in which the vicar then dwelt, which the vicar and his ſucceſſors ſhould poſſeſs in future to the uſe of the vicarage, in manner as abovementioned; and the vicar, *bona fide* and expreſsly for himſelf and his ſucceſſors, releaſed, that in either of

their

their manors aforeſaid, or of their demeſne lands or tenements in it, of the ſmall tithes of corn, hay, paſture, the three mills, of Abbotteſmill, Slakke, and the Windmill, of the nutriment of cattle, or of any other ſort of ſmall tithes, or any thing elſe beſides what has been already mentioned, he or they would not make any demand or claim in future, by reaſon of the ſaid vicarage, but with the income and endowment as aforeſaid, according to the manner of it, ſhould hold themſelves content; but with this proviſo, nevertheleſs, that if the ſaid premiſes ſhould be let to ferme to others, then the vicar ſhould *carry off* his juſt tithe from the farmer for that time. Saving to the vicar and his ſucceſſors, the oblations and obventions, and other ſmall tithes and rents only, with which the vicarage was originally endowed, excepting the tithes of the abbot and convent, as aforeſaid. And that the vicar and his ſucceſſors ſhould properly perform their duty to the church of Lenham, and the chapel of Royton, either by themſelves or other proper curate, and ſhould find lights in them, in the due and accuſtomed manner, and that they ſhould be bound to the payment of the procuration of the archbiſhop, and all other ordinary burthens of his church for ever; all other inſtruments or writings, if there ſhould be any, of compoſitions between the ſaid parties, or any of their predeceſſors, before made, touching the ſaid vicarage, only obtaining force by this writing, but as to any thing elſe totally void of all. To which inſtrument the ſaid abbot and convent had put their common ſeal.

The abbot and convent obtained from time to time ſeveral grants and extenſive privileges from the popes, among which was, an exemption from all archiepiſcopal or any eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction whatſoever, and ſubjecting them and all their poſſeſſions ſolely and immediately to the ſee of Rome. In conſequence of which, the abbot inſtituted ſeveral new deanries and apportioned the ſeveral churches belonging to his monaſtery

naſtery to each of them according to their vicinity, one of them was the deanry of Lenham, which church he ordained ſhould be the head of the deanry; and he appointed a dean to each, with officials, conſiſtories, &c. and exacted an oath of canonical obedience from each of them. This proceeding raiſed great conteſts and animoſities between the archbiſhops and the abbots from time to time, each appealing in his turn to the court of Rome. After more than five years altercation, the determination of their diſputes was entruſted by pope Boniface VIII. in the year 1300, to the abbots of Weſtminſter, Waltham, and St. Edmund: in conſequence of which, after near eight years controverſy, and great ſums of money ſpent on both ſides, the abbot, three years afterwards, was ſtripped of theſe exemptions, and by the pope's bull, declared to be ſubject to the archbiſhop's juriſdiction in all matters whatſoever, in like manner as heretofore;[y] which entirely diſſolved this new deanry, as well as the reſt of them.

The church and vicarage of Lenham remained part of the poſſeſſions of the monaſtery of St. Auguſtine till the final diſſolution of it in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it was, with all its revenues, ſurrendered into the king's hands.

The rectory of Lenham, with the advowſon of the vicarage, remained but a ſmall time in the king's hands, for the ſame year he granted the rectory of Lenham, the manor of it and their appurtenances, to Sir Anthony St. Leger, at the yearly rent of ſeven pounds. From him theſe premiſes deſcended to Sir Warham St. Leger, who in the reign of queen Elizabeth, ſold them to Francis Barnham, eſq. and he, in the 21ſt year of that reign, ſold this rectory and manor, with their appurtenances, to Robert Honywood, junior, the ſame being held of the queen *in capite*.

[y] See Decem. Script. col. 1970 to 2003.

Henry

Henry Wilford, esq. possessed this rectory and advowson in the reign of king James I. at the latter end of which, he alienated them to Anthony Brown, viscount Montague; since which they have had the same owners as the manor of Lenham, and are both, with that, now in the possession of George Best, esq. of Chilston.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. the church of Lenham was valued at 23l. 6s. 8d.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 13l. 15s. 2½d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 7s. 6¾d.

In 1640 it was valued at eighty pounds. Communicants four hundred.

CHURCH OF LENHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom presented.*	RECTORS.
Abbot and convent of St. Augustine	*Andrew*, in the reign of king Henry II.[z]

	VICARS.
Sir Thomas Horseman.	*George Hudson*, A. M. Nov. 14, 1605, obt. 1614.
	Robert Barrell, A. M. May 20, 1614.
William Cobb and William Collins, gents.	*Laurence Fox*, obt. 1631.
	Robert Marriott, A. M. Sept. 12, 1631.[a]
The King.	*The same again*, September 27, 1636.
The Archbishop.	*John Lord*, in 1663, obt. 1670.
	Henry Gerrard, A. M. Dec. 9, 1670, resig. 1677.
Viscount Montague.	*Thomas Robins*, 1677, obt. 1701.
Richard Styles, of Petworth.	*Thomas Nicholson*, 1701, obt. 1763.[b]
Thomas Best, esq.	*Richard Laurence*, LL. B. ind. Feb. 24, 1763, obt. August 1772.[c]

z Selden of Tythes, p. 415.
a Rym. Fœd. vol. xx. p. 138.
b Also rector of Wichling.
c In 1763 he had a dispensation, for holding Bredgar with this vicarage.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Thomas Best, esq.	*Thomas Verrier Alkin*, A. M. ind. Oct. 24, 1772, resigned March 1781.
	Thomas Scott, A. B. 1781, resigned 1792 [d]
	Maurice Lloyd, A. M. 1792, the present vicar.

[d] By dispensation in 1785 rector of Denton.

HARRIETSHAM.

LIES the next parish south-westward from Lenham. The manor of Hollingborne claims over a part of this parish.

It lies mostly at the foot of the great ridge of chalk hills, being near three miles across each way. It is, though healthy, rather unpleasantly situated, from the nature of its soil, for above the hill, where it extends but a small way till it joins Frinsted, it becomes where the chalk leaves it, a red earth, covered with flints, a heavy tillage and unfertile land. On the summit of the hill here called Stede hill, is Harrietsham-place, having a beautiful and extensive prospect over the country southward. At a small distance below the foot of the hill stands the church, with the parsonage close to it, and about a quarter of a mile farther, where the chalky soil continues over an open unshaded country, is Harrietsham-street, near which there is a pleasure-ground, belonging to Harrietsham-place, in which there is a summer-house, shrubbery, and plantation, with a large sheet of water, and several cascades, containing in the whole six acres. Through the above street the high road leads from Lenham, through the hamlet of Holmemill-green, and thence by Leeds park towards Maidstone, and here the soil becomes a sand, and as it extends southward, mixes with

with the quarry or rock ſtone; through this part of the pariſh the Lenham rivulet flows on weſtward towards the Medway at Maidſtone, receiving here into it ſeveral ſmaller ſtreams, which riſe at the bottom of the chalk hills, though at ſome diſtance from each other, the rivulet turning in its way Holmemill; about half a mile ſouthward from which is Farborne and the heath of that name, beyond which it extends into the eaſtern part of Kingſwood, where it joins to Ulcomb. There is a fair here, held yearly on the 5th of July, in the old-accuſtomed fair field, at the court lodge, for horſes, cattle, and pedlary.

THIS PLACE was given immediately after the fatal battle of Haſtings, among other great poſſeſſions, by William the Conqueror, to his half brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux and earl of Kent, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the general ſurvey of Domeſday:

In Aihorde hundred, Hugh, the grandſon of Herbert. holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Hariardeſham. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is ſix carucates, In demeſne .... eighteen villeins, with ten borderers having four carucates. There is a church, and eleven ſervants, and two mills of eleven ſhillings and ſix-pence, and ſeven acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of fifteen hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth ten pounds, when he received it eight pounds, now ten pounds. Oſuuard held it of king Edward.

The ſame Hugh holds of the biſhop, Fereburne. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is two carucates. In demeſne .... four villeins, with one carucate and an half, and two mills of forty pence. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth four pounds, afterwards, and now, three pounds. Aluuin held it of earl Godwin.

The ſame Hugh holds of the biſhop one yoke of free land in Seleſburne, and there he has half a carucate, with one borderer, and five ſervants, and one acre of meadow

and

and an half. It is and was worth, ſeparately, twenty ſhillings. Aluuin held it of earl Godwin.

The above-deſcribed eſtates, comprehended *the manor of Harrietſham*, and were, about four years after taking the above ſurvey, on the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, confiſcated to the crown.

After which this manor became part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Creſcie, or Creſſi; one of whom, Roger de Creſſi, appears to have held it in the beginning of king Henry III's reign, of the honor of Peverell, as one knight's fee, it being then valued at twenty pounds.

He was ſucceeded in it by his ſon, Hugh de Creſſi, who died in the 47th year of that reign, leaving Stephen de Creſſi his next heir. After which it ſeems to have been in the hands of the crown; for king Henry III. in his 48th year, directed his writ to the ſheriff of Kent, to deliver this manor to his niece Iſabel, the illegitimate daughter of Richard, earl of Cornwall, a younger ſon of king John, and then the wife of Maurice, lord Berkeley, for her ſupport, her huſband at that time having forfeited his eſtates, by aſſociating with the rebellious barons, and ſhe being at that time in great diſtreſs and poverty. This appears to have happened during the minority of Stephen de Creſſi, above-mentioned, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 52d year of that reign, holding it *in capite* by knight's ſervice.

Soon after which, this manor ſeems to have been divided; that part of it which ſtill retained the name of *the manor of Harrietſham*, came into the poſſeſſion of the family of Northwood, of Northwood, in Milton.

Roger de Northwood died anno 14 Edward I. poſſeſſed of this manor, held of the king *in capite*, by the ſervice of half a knight's fee, and the yearly rent of nineteen ſhillings, from thence to the prior and convent of Chriſt-church, Canterbury. His ſon, Sir John

de

de Northwood, changed the tenure of his lands from *gavelkind* to knight's ſervice, and in the 21ſt year of that reign claimed *free-warren* and other privileges of a manor here, before the juſtices itinerant, and afterwards, together with his grandſon, accompanied king Edward in his victorious expedition into Scotland, and was ſheriff of this county ſeveral times. Having been ſummoned to parliament among the barons of this realm, he died in the 13th year of king Edward II.

By the inquiſition then taken, he was found to hold *two parts of this manor in capite*, by the ſervice of two parts of one knight's fee, and ſuit to the court of the manor of Oſpringe, as of the honor of Peverel. He was ſucceeded by his grandſon Roger de Northwood, who in the 20th year of king Edward III. jointly with William de Clynton, earl of Huntingdon, who poſſeſſed the other part of this manor in right of Juliana de Leyborne, his wife, then paid aid for it, as one knight's fee, in Harrietſham and Eſt Ferbourne; at length his deſcendant, John Northwood, eſq. dying anno 4 Henry V. and leaving no iſſue male, his two ſiſters became his coheirs, who afterwards carried their reſpective ſhares of his part of this manor in marriage, the former to John Barley, of Hertfordſhire, and the other to Sir John Norton, of this county. John Barley ſoon afterwards conveyed his moiety of it to John Adam, who was poſſeſſed of conſiderable eſtates in Eſſex, and bore for his arms, *Vert, a plain croſs, or.* His deſcendant, Stephen Adam, was of Harrietſham, and died *ſ. p.* leaving his ſiſter Eve his heir, then the widow of John Levet, eſq. who carried this moiety of the manor in marriage, at the latter end of the reign of Philip and Mary, to Laurence Aſhburnham, gent. of Suſſex,[c] who, before the 17th of the next reign of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to William Stede, eſq.

[c] Rot Eſch. anno 3 and 4 Philip and Mary.

who

who that year levied a fine of this moiety of the manor of Harrietſham.

THE OTHER MOIETY *of this manor*, which came into the poſſeſſion of Sir John Norton, in right of his wife as before-mentioned, paſſed from his name into that of Peckham, in which it remained till Reginald Peckham, eſq. of Yaldham, in the 15th year of king Henry VIII.'s reign, conveyed it to Edward Scott, eſq. and he not long afterwards tranſmitted it in like manner, to John Hales, eſq. of the Dungeon, in Canterbury, one of the barons of the exchequer, whoſe deſcendant, William Hales, anno 4 Elizabeth, by a fine then levied, paſſed this moiety away by ſale to Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcombe, ſheriff in the 2d year of that reign, and chief governor of the province of Munſter, in Ireland, and he, in the 21ſt year of it, alienated this moiety of the manor of Harrietſham to William Stede, eſq. who having before purchaſed the other moiety of it, of Laurence Aſhburnham, eſq. became now poſſeſſed of the entire fee of them both. The Stedes were of ſome note in this pariſh for more than a century before this; for John Stede, ſenior, was reſident here in 1460, when by his will he deviſed his principal manſion at Stede-ſtreet, in this pariſh, to William his ſon. They bore for their arms, *Argent, a chevron between three bears heads couped ſable, muzzled, or.* William Stede, eſq. the poſſeſſor of this manor as above-mentioned, reſided at Harrietſham, and dying in 1574, lies buried in this church, under an altar tomb. His ſon, Sir William Stede, reſided likewiſe at Harrietſham, and was ſheriff anno 11 James I.[f] whoſe eldeſt ſon, Sir John Stede, becoming poſſeſſed of this manor, built a handſome ſeat on it, naming it from himſelf and the ſituation of it, Stede-hill, in which he afterwards reſided, and in his deſcendants, who moſt of them lie buried in this church,

[f] See Viſtn. co. Kent, anno 1619, pedigree Stede.

this eſtate continued down to Edwyn Stede, eſq. who ſucceeded to it on his father's death in 1735, and reſided here. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Hamilton, eſq. of Chilſton, who ſurvived him, and died *ſ. p.* Soon after he became poſſeſſed of this eſtate, he ſold it to William Horſemonden Turner, eſq. of Maidſtone, of which town he was recorder, and twice repreſented it in parliament. He was the ſon of Anthony Horſmonden, of Maidſtone, by his ſecond wife Jane, daughter of Sir William Turner, of Richmond, and grandſon of Daniel Horſmonden, D. D. rector of Ulcomb, by Urſula, daughter of Sir Warham St. Leger.

He changed the name of this ſeat to Harrietſham-place, by which it has ever ſince been called, and dying *ſ. p.* in 1753, was buried at Maidſtone, bearing for his arms, firſt thoſe of Turner, which he aſſumed on his uncle John Turner's death, being, *On a bend, three fer de molins*, quartered with thoſe of Horſmonden, *Gules, a ſaltier argent, ſurmounted by a feſs, azure, charged with leopards heads of the firſt.* He married Elizabeth Read, of Graveſend, who ſurvived him, and by his will poſſeſſed this manor and ſeat among his other eſtates, ſhe reſided here, and dying in 1782, was buried beſide her huſband, upon which it came by the limitation of her huſband's will, to Charles Booth, eſq. of the Temple, London, who reſided here, where he kept his ſhrievalty in 1781, in which year he was knighted. Sir Charles Booth married Mrs. Sheppard, and died *ſ. p.* in London in 1795, upon which it came by the further entail, and limitations in Mr. Turner's will, with his other eſtates in this county, to William Baldwin, eſq. who is the preſent owner of this manor and ſeat, and now reſides at Harrietſham-place. A court leet and court baron is held for this manor.

THE OTHER PART *of the manor of Harrietſham*, lying *in Eaſt Farborne*, in this pariſh, has already been taken

taken notice of in the above-deſcription of that manor, in which mention has been made of its having belonged to the biſhop of Baieux, by gift from his half-brother the Conqueror, and the deſcription of it in the ſurvey of Domeſday has been likewiſe given.

After the biſhop's diſgrace, it paſſed, as part of the manor of Harrietſham, into the poſſeſſion of the family of Creſſi, and continued in it till the death of Stephen de Creſſi in the 52d year of king Henry III. about which time the manor of Harrietſham ſeems to have been divided; two-thirds of it paſſed into the poſſeſſion of the family of Northwood, as has been already mentioned, and the remainder into that of Leyborne.

Roger de Leyborne died poſſeſſed of this eſtate, then ſtiled *the manor of Harrietſham in Eaſt Farborne*, in the 56th year of that reign, and his ſon William de Leyborne ſucceeded to it, in the 2d year of king Edward I.

Juliana, his grand daughter, who from her great poſſeſſions, was uſually ſtiled *the Infanta of Kent*, became his heir, whoſe laſt huſband, Sir William de Clinton, afterwards created earl of Huntingdon, held this eſtate in her right in the 20th year of Edward III. when he, jointly with Roger de Northwood, paid aid for one knight's fee in Harrieteſham and Eſt Ferbourne, which John de Northwood and William de Leyborne before held there of the king, as of the *honor of Peverel*.

Juliana de Leyborne had no iſſue by either of her huſbands, whom ſhe ſurvived, and died poſſeſſed of this eſtate in the 41ſt year of that reign. On which it eſcheated to the crown, there being then no one found who could make claim to her eſtates, either by direct or even collateral alliance.[z]

[z] See Leyborne, vol. iv. of this hiſtory, p. 499.

After

After which, this part of the manor of Harrietſham, then ſtiled the manor of Hariettesham, in Eſt Farborne, continued in the crown, till king Richard II. in his 11th year, gave it to the priory of canons, alias Chiltern Langley, in Hertfordſhire, where it remained till the diſſolution of it in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, who next year granted it to Richard, *ſuffragan* biſhop of Dover, together with the ſcite of the before-mentioned monaſtery, and other lands and poſſeſſions belonging to it, to hold during his life, or until he ſhould be promoted to one or more eccleſiaſtical benefices, of the yearly value of one hundred pounds, in which caſe this grant ſhould be void. This certainly happened before the 36th yeas of that reign; for the king, that year, granted this manor to Sir Thomas Moile, to hold *in capite*, who gave it in marriage with his youngeſt daughter and coheir Amy, to Sir Thomas Kempe, of Wye, who paſſed it away in the reign of queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Wotton, eſq. of Boughton Malherb, whoſe ſon Sir Edward Wotton, was in the 1ſt year of king James I. created lord Wotton, baron of Marley, in this pariſh. After which it continued by the name of *the manor of Eaſt Farborne*, in the like ſucceſſion of ownerſhip as the manor of Boughton Malherb heretofore deſcribed, down to Philip Dormer Stanhope, earl of Cheſterfield, who in 1750 alienated it, with the reſt of the Wotton eſtates in this county, to Galfridus Mann, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of it in 1756, and his only ſon Sir Horace Mann, knight and baronet, is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor of Eaſt Farborne.[h]

West Farborn is a manor in this pariſh, ſo called from its ſituation in reſpect to that of Eaſt Farborne, already deſcribed, which was part of the

[h] See more of this family under Linton, and Boughton Malherb.

poſſeſſions

poſſeſſions likewiſe of Odo, biſhop of Baieux, accordingly it is thus entered in the book of Domeſday, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

Ralph Curbeſpine holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Fereburne. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is ..... In demeſne there is one carucate, and two villeins, with one borderer, and two ſervants, and one acre and an half of meadow. Wood for the pannage of ſix hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth thirty ſhillings. Obern Biga held it of king Edward.

After the biſhop's diſgrace, about the year 1084, and the confiſcation of all his poſſeſſions to the crown, this eſtate was granted to the family of Magminot and Say ſucceſſively; of which laſt it was held in king Henry III.'s reign, as chief lords of the fee, by Sir William de Pevington, of Pevington, in Pluckley, as one knight's fee. His deſcendants John and William Pevington, two brothers, both dying *ſ. p.* Amabilia, their ſiſter, became their heir, and carried this manor in marriage to John Gobyon, eſq. of Eſſex. She ſurvived him, and dying anno 7 Henry IV. by her deed, veſted this manor in feoffees, for the diſcharge of her debts and legacies. They paſſed it away to Hedd, whoſe deſcendant William Hedd died poſſeſſed of it in the 5th year of Henry VIII, it being then held of the king, as of his honor of Saye, and paying ward to Dover caſtle.

From this name it paſſed into that of Love, and thence again to St. Leger, and Sir Warham St Leger, of Ulcomb, about the middle of queen Elizabeth's reign, conveyed it to Mr. Benedict Barnham, alderman of London, and ſheriff of that city, anno 1592. He died poſſeſſed of it in 1598, and on the diviſion of his eſtates among his four ſurviving daughters and coheirs, this manor of Weſt Farborne fell to the ſhare of Dorothy, the third daughter, who entitled her huſband Sir John Conſtable, to the fee of it; from whoſe

deſcendant it paſſed by ſale to Sir Thomas Colepeper, of Hollingborne, in whoſe family it remained till Thomas, lord Colepeper, leaving an only daughter and heir Catherine, ſhe carried it, with Leeds caſtle and other poſſeſſions in this neighbourhood, in marriage to Thomas, lord Fairfax, whoſe brother Robert, lord Fairfax, dying *ſ. p.* in 1793, it became the property of his nephew the Rev. Denny Martin Fairfax, D. D. now of Leeds caſtle, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

HARBILTON is another manor in this pariſh, written in antient deeds *Herbreton*, which is now ſo far blended with that of Harrietſham, by having had the ſame owners, as to be but little known by name, was part of thoſe eſtates in this pariſh given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday:

Robert Latin holds to ferme Herbretiton. Adelold held it of the biſhop (of Baieux). It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is .... In demeſne there is one carucate, and two villeins, with one borderer, having two head of cattle, and there are four acres of meadow. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth ſixty ſhillings, and yet it is let to ferme for four pounds. Aluric held it of earl Godwin.

After the biſhop of Baieux's diſgrace, which happened about four years after the above ſurvey was taken, his poſſeſſions became confiſcated to the crown.

In the reign of king Henry III. the family of Malmains were poſſeſſed of this manor; one of whom paid aid for it, in the 20th year of that reign, as three quarters of a knight's fee, held of the earl of Ewe, as of his honor of Hagenet.

They were, ſoon after the above period, ſucceeded here by the family of Mareys; William de Mareys poſſeſſed it in the reigns of king Henry V. and VI. to the former of whom he was *eſquire of the body*, and in the

the latter reign ſheriff of this county in the 20th year of it, and likewiſe eſquire to Henry Chichele, cardinal and archbiſhop of Canterbury. He died anno 1459, and lies buried in Preſton church, near Faverſham. Soon after which, this manor became veſted in Walter Moile, who was juſtice of the peace for this county, in the reigns both of Henry VI. and Edward IV. He was ſucceeded in it by his heir John Moile, eſq. whoſe ſon Robert Moile, about the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, alienated it to Ralph St. Leger, eſq of Ulcomb, whoſe grandſon Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcomb, alienated this manor in the reign of queen Elizabeth, one part of it to Francis Colepeper, and the other to Henry Brockhull, eſq. of Aldington, ſoon after which I find William Stede, eſq. poſſeſſed of it, in whoſe deſcendants it continued down to Edwyn Stede, eſq. who ſoon after the year 1735 alienated it, together with the manor of Harrietſham, and the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, to William Horſmonden Turner, eſq. Since which it has paſſed with them, through the ſame ſucceſſion of ownerſhip, down to William Baldwin, eſq. of Harrietſham-place, eſq. the preſent owner of it.

THERE ARE TWO MANORS in this pariſh, called MARLEY, alias *Merley-court*, and HOLME-MILL, alias BENTLEY; the former of which is recorded in the book of Domeſday, as having been an appendage to the manor of *Bewley* or *Bouley*, in Boughton Malherb, and part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in it:

Of this manor (of Bogelei) one Homager (homo) Adam has one ſuling, and it is called Murlea, and there he has one carucate and four villeins, with one carucate, and a church, and two ſervants, and wood for the pannage of four hogs. . . . . The whole manor, in the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor, was worth ſix pounds, and afterwards

wards as much, now ſeven pounds. Turgis held it of king Edward.

After the biſhop of Baieux's diſgrace, and the confiſcation of his eſtates to the crown, the manor of Merley continued in the poſſeſſion of Adam abovementioned, who gave the tithes of it to Anſchetil, archdeacon of Canterbury. He was ſucceeded in it by his brother Eudo Dapifer, that is, the king's ſteward, who gave the tithes of it, with the conſent of Anſchetill, to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rocheſter, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

Robert Fitzhamon, a potent Norman lord, afterwards appears to have held it, whoſe daughter Mabel carried it in marriage to Robert, earl of Glouceſter, natural ſon to Henry I.[1]

After which, the family of Creſſi, poſſeſſors likewiſe of Harrietſham manor, became lords of the fee, of whom it was held by a family, which took their name from it.

In the reign of king Henry III. the heir of Robert de Merlee held it, as half a knight's fee, of Roger de Creſſi, and he of the king, as of the honor of Peverel; but they were extinct here before the 20th of king Edward III. when John de Somerye paid aid for it, as half a knight's fee. How it paſſed afterwards, I do not find, but at the beginning of Edward IV.'s reign, it was in the poſſeſſion of Thomas Kemp, biſhop of London, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1489, and was buried in the chapel of the Trinity, on the north ſide of the body of St. Paul's church, founded by himſelf, in which, by his will, he founded a perpetual chantry, and endowed it with this manor of Murley-court, as it is ſtiled in his will, then of the yearly value, beyond repriſes, of 3l. 4s. 8d. In which ſtate this manor continued till the firſt year of king

[1] See Text. Roff. p. 164, 184. Reg. Roff. p. 116. Sandford's Gen. Hiſt. p. 45.

Edward

Edward VI. when the chantry was ſuppreſſed, among others of the like ſort, and was veſted in the king and his heirs, by an act paſſed that year ſpecially for that purpoſe. At which time it appears, by the ſurvey taken of it, to have been let to William Pratts, gent. at four pounds per annum, and that it paid a quit-rent to Sir Anthony St. Leger, lord of the manor of Lenham, and that it was given by the will of Thomas Kemp, biſhop of London, for the purpoſes above-mentioned,

Soon after which, the king granted this manor of Merley to Sir Edward Wotton, one of his privy counſel, who was then likewiſe poſſeſſed of the manor of Holmemill, alias Bentley, in this parish, which, if I miſtake not, had belonged to the priory of Leeds, and had come into the hands of king Henry VIII. at the ſuppreſſion of it, by the act paſſed in the 31ſt year of that reign. He died poſſeſſed of both theſe manors in the 6th year of king Edward VI. then holding them of the king *in capite* by knight's ſervice. After which they paſſed in like manner as that of Eaſt Farborne before-mentioned down to Philip-Dormer Stanhope, earl of Cheſterfield, who, in 1750, ſold them, with the reſt of the Wotton eſtates in this part of the county, to Galfridus Mann, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of them in 1756, and his only ſon Sir Horace Mann, is the preſent poſſeſſor of theſe manors.

THE WHOLE TITHES of *the manor of Merley-court* were given, by Adam the poſſeſſor of it, in the time of the Conqueror, to Anſchetill, archdeacon of Canterbury, who, together with Eudo Dapifer, brother and ſucceſſor of Adam, in the poſſeſſion of this manor, granted them to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rocheſter.[k]

[k] Text. Roff. p. 164. Reg. Roff. p. 116. See the confirmations of theſe tithes in Reg. Roff. p. 46, 48, 505, 410.

Robert,

Robert, natural ſon of king Henry I. afterwards poſſeſſor of this manor, granted to the above priory the lands, cuſtoms and exemptions, which Robert Fitzhamon had granted in alms to them in Merley.

This portion of tithes remained with the priory till the diſſolution of it, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when it was, among the reſt of the poſſeſſions of the monaſtery, ſurrendered into the king's hands. After which, the king, in his 33d year, ſettled it by letters patent, by his dotation-charter, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, part of whoſe poſſeſſions it remains at this time. William Baldwin, eſq. of Harrietſham-place, is the preſent leſſee of it, under the dean and chapter.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, ſoon after the death of king Charles I. this portion was ſurveyed, by order of the ſtate, in 1649; when it was returned, that it conſiſted of all the tithes, both great and ſmall, ariſing out of the lands and fields of the manor of Merley-court, in Harrietſham, or within the precincts of it, amounting to one hundred and eighty-four acres, which were of the improved value of 10l. 10s. and were let by the dean and chapter, anno 15 Charles I. for twenty-one years, to Chriſtopher Clarke, at the yearly rent of five ſhillings, ſo there remained clear only 10l. 5s. lady Stanhope being then immediate tenant of them.

CHARITIES.

Mr. Marc Quested, citizen and fiſhmonger of London, by his will in 1642, founded twelve alms-houſes in this pariſh, which he endowed out of his manor of Pen-court, in Hollingborne; ſix of them for as many poor inhabitants of this pariſh, and the other ſix for as many of the poor of that company, whom he had made his truſtees. Each poor perſon, beſides the above, receives in money about 6l.

Sir William Stede gave by deed 10l. per annum in land, in the pariſh of Sandhurſt, for the binding out yearly apprentices two poor children of this pariſh, Milton and Tong, veſted in William Baldwin, eſq.

In

In 1604, A PERSON UNKNOWN gave a large ſilver cup and cover, for the uſe of the ſacrament.

WILLIAM STEDE, LL. D in 1637, gave a large ſilver flagon and a ſalver, for the like uſe.

THREE PIECES of land near Runham, in Lenham, of the value of five guineas per annum, were given by *a perſon now unknown*; the profits of them to be equally divided between the poor of this pariſh and Hollingborne, veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers of both pariſhes.

THREE PIECES OF LAND near Stubble-hill, in Lenham, of the yearly value of 2l. 11s. were given by *a perſon now unknown*, to the uſe of the poor of this pariſh.

A PIECE OF LAND, called Pariſh-croft, containing half an acre, let at 7s. per annum, was given by *a perſon now unknown*, in 1684, to the like uſe, now veſted in the churchwardens and overſeers.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave half an acre of land, in Weſt-ſtreet, on which two houſes have been erected for the reception of the poor, veſted in like manner.[1]

The poor relieved conſtantly are about twenty-five; caſually about twenty.

HARRIETSHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which is a handſome building, conſiſting of three iſles and three chancels, with a ſquare tower at the weſt end, is dedicated to St. John Baptiſt. In it are ſome handſome monuments, and ſeveral memorials of the family of Stede, there was once a fraternity in this church of the bleſſed Virgin Mary, to which Robert Waryn, of this place, by will in 1471, gave land called Bonyers, in this pariſh.

The church ſeems once to have belonged to the priory of Leeds, for king Richard II. in his 19th year granted his licence to the prior and canons of it, to appropriate it to their own uſes. How it happened that this appropriation never took place, or that the priory were diveſted of the poſſeſſion of it, I do not find; but in the reign of king Henry VI. it was in

[1] See Sir Charles Booth's benefactions in additions and corrections to this volume.

the

the hands of the crown, for that king, in his 27th year, granted the patronage and advowſon of it, to the warden and fellows of All Souls college, in Oxford, who ſtill continue in the poſſeſſion of it.

It is valued in the king's books at 11l. 10s. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 3s.

In 1640, it was valued at one hundred and ſixty pounds. Communicants 192. The glebe land conſiſts of ſixty acres and upwards.

CHURCH OF HARRIETSHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
The Queen, by lapſe.	*George Havenden*, 1625.
All Souls college.	*Richard Steward*, LL. D. Jan. 11, 1625.
	John Lynch, A. M. 1637, ſequeſtered about 1642.
	Samuel Smith, intruded, 1643.[l]
	John Barton.[m]
	John Lynch, reſtored in 1660.[n]
	John Clerke, eſq. A. M. 1680, obt. 1689.[o]
	Thomas Baker, A. M. 1689.[p]
	..... *Coliere*, 1713.
	Daniel Pratt, A. M. 1718, ob. July 30, 1723.[q]
	Miles Weſt, A. M. 1723, obt. Aug. 27, 1743.[r]
	Edward Smith, LL. D. Nov. 1743, obt. 1773.
	James R. Hayward, April 1773, the preſent rector.[s]

l He was before curate of Maidſtone. See Mr. Thomas Wilſon's life, p. 24. Hiſt. Maidſtone, p. 66.

n See Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 1033. Walker's Suff. of Clergy, part ii. p. 294.

o Son of Sir Francis Clerke, and is ſtiled eſq. in the preſentation. See Wood's Ath. Oxon. vol. ii. faſti, p. 190. He was alſo rector of Ulcomb, in which church he lies buried.

p Wood ibid. faſti, p. 206.

q Son of the dean of Rocheſter. He was buried in that cathedral. Reg. Roff. p. 704.

r He died and lies buried in this church-yard.

s He has improved the value of this rectory very conſiderably. In 1781 he had a diſpenſation to hold this rectory with St. Mary le Strand.

HOLLING-

HOLLINGBORNE.

THE next parish north-westward from Harrietsham is *Hollingborne*, called in Domesday, *Hoilingeborde*, and in later records, *Holingburnan* and *Holingeburne*. It probably took its name from the spring which rises in the vale underneath the hill, in this parish.

THE PARISH of Hollingborne is situated much the same as that of Harrietsham last described, close to the great ridge of chalk hills, at the foot of which is the village called Hollingborne-street, in which at the south end of it stands the church and vicarage, and near them a well-looking brick mansion, of the time of queen Elizabeth, which by its appearance must have had owners of good condition in former times, but what is remarkable the rector of Hollingborne claims some rooms in this house in right of his rectory at this time. The road through Newnham-bottom from Ospringe and Canterbury passes through Hollingborne-street, and thence through Eyhorne, commonly called Iron-street, in this parish, where there are two good houses, one belonging to Robert Salmon, esq. who resides in it, and the other built not many years since by Mr. John Weeks, who died possessed of it in 1785. Hence the road leads on, and joins the Ashford high road through Bersted to Maidstone. The southern part of this parish consists mostly of a deep sand, the whole of it below the hill is well watered by some small streams, which running southward join the Lenham rivulet in its way to Maidstone. Nearer the street the soil becomes a chalk, which continues to the summit of the hill, at the edge of which stands Mr. Duppa's house, whence the remaining part of this parish northward, situated on

on high ground, and expoſed to the cold bleak winds, is but a wild and dreary country, with thick hedge-rows, and frequent coppices of wood, moſtly of hazel and oak, and ſmall unthriving trees of the latter diſperſed among them; the ſoil a deep tillage land, wet and very poor, being a red cludgy earth, covered with quantities of flint ſtones. On Eyhorne green, or as it is commonly called Broad-ſtreet, in this pariſh, in October yearly, two conſtables are choſen, one for the upper, the other for the lower half hundred of Eyhorne, each of which diſtrict conſiſts of the twelve adjoining pariſhes, the borſholders in which, and the ſeveral boroughs in them, except ſuch as are choſen at the different court leets, are choſen here likewiſe.

This pariſh, with the manor of Elnothington in it, together with the reſt of the hundred of Eyhorne, was antiently bound to contribute to the repair of the ſixth pier of Rocheſter bridge.

ÆTHELSTAN ETHELING, ſon of Ethelred II. gave by his will in 1015, to Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, his lands at Hollingborne, with their appurtenances, excepting one plough-land, which he had given to Siferth. In the MSS. in Bennet college library, Cambridge, of the evidences of Chriſt-church, Canterbury, intitled Thorn, printed in Decim. Script. f. 2221, this gift is ſaid to have been made in 980; a very improbable circumſtance, the king, his elder brother, at that time being but fourteen years of age.

Theſe lands he had bought of his father, and gave them, with his conſent, to Chriſt-church, L. S. A. that is, free from all ſecular ſervice, excepting the *trinoda neceſſitas*, in like manner as Adiſham had been given to it.

The manor of Hollingborne remained part of the poſſeſſions of the church of Canterbury at the time of the conqueſt, when the revenues of it were enjoyed as one common eſtate by the archbiſhop and his convent; but archbiſhop Lanfranc, after the example

ample of foreign churches, ſeparating them, in the partition Hollingborne fell to the ſhare of the monks, and was allotted for their ſubſiſtence, (or *ad Cibum*, as it was uſually termed) and it is accordingly thus entered in the book of Domeſday, under the general title of *Terra Monachorum Archiepi*, i. e. the land of the monks of the archbiſhop.

The archbiſhop himſelf holds Hoilingeborde. It was taxed at ſix ſulings. The arable land is twenty-four carucates. In demeſne there are two, and ſixty-one villeins, with ſixteen borderers, having twenty-three carucates. There is a church, twelve ſervants, and two mills, and eight acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of forty hogs. In the whole, in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth twenty pounds, and now it is worth thirty pounds. To this manor there adjoins half a ſuling, which never paid ſcot, this the biſhop of Baieux rents of the archbiſhop.

At this time, the whole of the above premiſes ſeems to have been valued at thirty pounds.

King Henry II. granted to the monks of Chriſt-church a charter for their lands at Hollingborne upon the Hills. In the 10th year of king Edward II. the prior obtained a charter of free-warren for his manor of Hollingborne, among others; about which time it was, with its appurtenances, valued at 46l. 9s. 8d. King Henry VI. by his letters patent, in his 25th and 26th year, granted to the prior a market, to be held at this place weekly on a Wedneſday, and a fair yearly on the feaſt of St. Anne.[1]

William Selling, who was elected prior in the next reign of king Edward IV. anno 1472, during the time of his holding that dignity, greatly improved the prior's apartments here. After which, it ſeems to have undergone no material alteration till the diſſo-

[1] Rot. Cart. anno 25 and 26 Henry VIII. N. 30.

lution

lution of the priory, which was ſurrendered into the hands of king Henry VIII. in the 31ſt year of his reign.

The manor of Hollingborne did not remain long in the hands of the crown; for the king ſettled it, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whoſe poſſeſſions it now remains.

There is a court-leet and court baron regularly held by the dean and chapter for this manor, which extends likewiſe into the adjoining pariſhes of Hucking, Bredhurſt, and Harrietſham, the quit-rents of it called Beadle-rents, being about forty-two pounds per annum.

BUT THE DEMESNE LANDS *of this manor* have been from time to time leaſed out by the dean and chapter at a reſerved rent of 10l. 9s. The year after the grant of it to them, they demiſed them by leaſe to I. Reynolde, as they did anno 19 Elizabeth to William Purefoy, in whoſe family they remained till the beginning of king James I.'s reign. After which the Fludds held them in leaſe, and continued ſo to do, till their intereſt in them was paſſed away to W. Alabaſter, D. D. After which theſe premiſes were held in ſucceſſion by Bargrave, Boys, Farewell, and Gookin, till the year 1684, when Sir Thomas Culpeper, had a leaſe of them, in whoſe family they continued till John Spencer Colepeper, of the Charter-houſe, paſſed away his intereſt in them to the Hon. Robert Fairfax, who held them in 1758, and then alienated his leaſe to Francis Child, eſq. banker in London, whoſe brother Robert Child, eſq. of London, banker, dying in 1782, the truſtees of his will, Robert Dent and John Keyſel, eſqrs. are now in the poſſeſſion of his intereſt in the leaſe of theſe demeſnes, under the dean and chapter, beſides which the dean and chapter have ſeveral other lands and woods here leaſed out by them to different perſons.

ELNOTHINGTON

ELNOTHINGTON is a manor of eminent account in this pariſh and Berſted, which appears by the book of Domeſday to have been part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title, of whoſe lands it is thus entered in that record, under the name of Alnoitone.

Hugo de Port holds Alnoitone. It was taxed at three ſulings. The arable land is eight carucates. In demeſne there are two carucates, and eighteen villeins, with ſix borderers, having ſix carucates. There is a church and eight ſervants, and two mills and an half, of ſeventeen ſhillings. There are five acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of forty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth nine pounds, and as much when he received it, now ten pounds, and yet it pays twelve pounds.

To this manor there belong three manſions of land in Rocheſter, and they pay five ſhillings per annum. Oſuuard held it of king Edward.

About four years after the above ſurvey, the biſhop of Baieux fell into diſgrace, and this, among the reſt of his eſtates, became confiſcated to the crown.

In the reign of king Edward I. this manor of Elnothington was held by William de Port, as half a knight's fee, of Robert de St. John; after which it came into the poſſeſſion of a family, which aſſumed their ſurname from it, and in a deed of Adam de Twiſden, which bears date in the 21ſt year of that reign, William de Elnothington is one of the witneſſes to it.

In the reign of king Edward III. Sir Arnold de St. Leger, of Ulcomb, was in poſſeſſion of it; in the 42d year of which reign, he made a compoſition with ſeveral of his tenants for the lands they held of this manor. From him it paſſed in an uninterrupted deſcent down to Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcomb, ſheriff in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth, and after-

wards chief governor of Munſter, in Ireland, in which province he was unfortunately ſlain in 1599. However, ſome years before his death, he alienated it, with Greenway-court, in this pariſh, to Francis Culpeper, eſq. ſecond ſon of William Culpeper, eſq. of Loſenham and Wigſell, who afterwards reſided at Greenway-court, under which a more ample account of him may be ſeen. His ſon Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Greenway-court, ſucceeded him in this manor, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1661; ſince which this manor has paſſed in like manner as that eſtate down to Rob. Child, eſq. of London, banker, the truſtees of whoſe will, Robert Dent and John Keyſall, eſqrs. are now in the poſſeſſion of it.

GREENWAY-COURT was formerly eſteemed a manor, the manſion of which was a ſeat of good account in this pariſh. It is ſituated cloſe at the foot of the chalk hill, near a mile eaſtward from Hollingborne church, and was poſſeſſed antiently by a family, who took their ſurname from their habitation at it; one of whom, William, ſon of Gilbert de Greenwaye, was owner of it, and reſided here in the year 1236, as appears by a regiſter of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury. How long they continued poſſeſſors of this eſtate, I do not find; but it next became the property of the family of Atte-leze. Sampſon atte Leze, of Sheldwich, was owner of it in the 26th year of king Edward III. as was his deſcendant, Marcellus atte Leſe, afterwards, who left two daughters his coheirs; to one of whom, Cecilie, and her huſband, Valentine Barrett, eſq. of Perry-court, he by his deed, anno 15 Richard II. gave all his lands and tenements in Hollingborne, and elſewhere in the hundred of Eyhorne. They, by deed and fine levied anno 22 Richard II. paſſed this eſtate away to Thomas Wottone, for one hundred marcs of ſilver.

In the 22d year of king Henry VI. William Wotton, ſon and heir of Thomas Wotton, conveyed

to

to Walter Langle, esq. the manor or messuage of Grenewey. From this name this estate passed in the reign of king Edward IV. to Ralph St. Leger, esq. of Ulcomb, sheriff of this county in the 8th year of it, in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcomb, chief governor of Munster, in Ireland, in queen Elizabeth's reign, and he alienated it with the manor of Elnothington above described, to Francis Culpeper, esq. who was the son of William Culpeper, esq. of Losenham, in this county, and of Wigsell, in Sussex, being the son of Walter, by Anne his wife, only daughter and heir of Henry Aucher, esq. of Losenham, in Newenden, which Walter was son of Sir John Colepeper, of Bedgbury, in Goudhurst, living in the reign of king Edward IV. under which parish a further account of him may be seen. William Culpeper before-mentioned, had by Cicelie, daughter of Edward Barrett, seven sons, of whom Sir John, of Wigsell, in the reign of James I. was ancestor of the lords Colepeper, the heir of which family married Thomas, lord Fairfax, possessor of Leeds-castle in her right; Francis, the second son, purchased Greenway-court, as before-mentioned; Thomas was the the third son, and ancestor of the Culpepers, of St. Stephen's, near Canterbury; Dr. Martin Culpeper, the fourth son, lies buried in Kingsnorth church; and Walter, the fifth son, settled at Hunburne, in Oxfordshire, and left an only daughter and heir. Francis Culpeper, esq. afterwards resided at Greenway-court, where he died in 1501, and was buried in this church, leaving an only son, Sir Thomas Culpeper, who likewise resided at Greenway-court, though he had purchased Leeds castle. He died at the former in 1661, and was buried in Hollingborne church, having had by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Cheney, esq. of Guestling, in Sussex, three sons and eight daughters. Of the former, Sir Cheney, the eldest, inherited Leeds-castle, where a

further account of him may be ſeen; Francis, the ſecond ſon, died young; and Sir Thomas Culpeper, the third ſon, became poſſeſſed of Greenway-court, where he reſided.

His grandſon, John Spencer Colepeper, eſq. was of the Charter-houſe, and alienated Greenway-court to the hon. Robert Fairfax, of Leeds-caſtle, who afterwards parted with it to Francis Child, eſq. of London, banker, on whoſe death in 1763, it came to his brother and heir-at-law Robert Child, of London, banker, who died in 1782, and the truſtees of his will, Robert Dent and John Keyſall, eſqrs. are now in the poſſeſſion of it.

RIPPLE is a reputed manor and ſeat in this pariſh, which had owners of that name, for in the 30th year of Edward I. Richard de Ripple held at his deceaſe this and other lands in the pariſh of Hollingborne, in leaſe of the prior and convent of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury; but it did not continue long afterwards in his name, for before the latter end of Edward III.'s reign, it was become the property of the family of Septvans; one of whom, Sir William Septvans, died poſſeſſed of it in the 25th year of that reign, and was ſucceeded in it by his ſon William Septvans, who not long afterwards conveyed it to John Gower, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 39th year of that reign, and from thence, not many years afterwards, it was alienated to Sir John Brockhull, whoſe deſcendants reſided at Aldington, in the adjoining pariſh of Thurnham. In them this manor continued down to Henry Brockhull, eſq. of Aldington, who died in 1596 poſſeſſed of the manor of Ripple, leaving two daughters his coheirs; of whom Anne, by marrying Mr. John Taylor, gent. entitled him to this eſtate, which he alienated to Sir Martin Barnham. He was ſon of Francis Barnham, eſq. ſheriff of London anno 1570, the eldeſt ſon of Stephen Barnham, of Southwick, in Hampſhire, of the privy chamber to king Henry VIII. whoſe ſon I take

take to have been Nicholas Barnham, ſerjeant-at-law in the very beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign. Francis Barnham bore for his arms, *Sable, a croſs engrailed, between four creſcents, argent*; and had four ſons; of whom Martin, before-mentioned, was the eldeſt, and Benedict the fourth, was alderman and ſheriff of London in 1592, and dying in 1598, left his five daughters his coheirs.

Sir F. Barnham, the purchaſer of this manor, afterwards reſided at Hollingborne-hill, and was ſheriff in the 40th year of Q. Elizabeth. He died in 1610, and lies buried in this church, being ſucceeded in the manor of Ripple by his eldeſt ſon (by his ſecond wife, daughter of Sir Martin Calthorpe, of London) Sir F. Barnham, who was of Hollingborne,[n] and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sampſon Lennard, eſq. of Chevening, ſiſter of Henry, lord Dacre, by whom he had fifteen children, ten of whom, ſix ſons and four daughters, ſurvived her. Of the ſons, Dacre was the eldeſt, and Robert, the ſecond, was ſeated at Boughton Monchenſie, and afterwards created a baronet, under which pariſh a further account of him and his deſcendants may be ſeen. In his deſcendants this manor remained till it was at length ſold to Duckeſbery, in which name it continued down to Mr. John Duckeſbury, of Berſted, who dying ſome years ago, left Mary his widow in the poſſeſſion of it, and ſhe having ſince remarried with Mr. Hodſoll Sale, of Berſted, he is now in her right, entitled to it.

MURSTON is another manor in this pariſh, which in antient deeds and court rolls was uſually written *Moſton*, and in the reign of Edward I. was the property of a family who aſſumed their name from it; but they were extinct here before the beginning of Richard II.'s reign, when it was become the eſtate of

[n] Among the Harleian MSS. No. 6019, is a folio, containing evidences belonging to Hollingborne, from Sir Francis Barnham and Doughty.

Wood, in whoſe deſcendants, ſeveral of whom lie buried in the church-yard of this pariſh, as appears by their wills in the Prerogative-office, in Canterbury, it continued for ſeveral centuries, for it remained the property of one of them at the reſtoration of king Charles II. Soon after which it was paſſed away to Chaloner, in which name it continued till Reynolds Chaloner, gent. who bore for his arms, *Three maſcles, on a chevron a cinquefoil*, alienated this manor, with other premiſes in this pariſh, to Chriſtopher Vane, lord Barnard, who died in 1723, having by his will given this manor, with Snagſbrook, Claypitts, and other lands in this pariſh, as well as all his other eſtates here and elſewhere in this county, to his ſecond ſon William, viſcount Vane, who afterwards reſided at Fairlawn, near Wrotham.

His only ſon and heir William, viſcount Vane, dying *ſ. p.* in 1788, by will deviſed this manor, with his other eſtates in this county and elſewhere, to David Papillon, eſq. of Acriſe, who ſold this manor, with the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, in 1791, to Lewis Cage, eſq. of Berſted, who ſettled them on his eldeſt ſon of the ſame name, and he is the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

PEN-COURT is a manor and ſeat in Hollingborne, which was formerly more properly called Pende-court, from a family who were antiently owners of it, and reſided at it; but before the end of king Edward III.'s reign, this name was extinct here, for John Donnett, of Silham, in Rainham, died poſſeſſed of it in the 36th year of that reign; his deſcendant James Donnett, left an only daughter and heir Margerie, who carried this ſeat in marriage to John St. Leger, of Ulcomb, ſheriff of this county anno 9 Henry VI. and in his deſcendants it continued down to Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcomb, ſheriff in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth, and he alienated it, with Elnothington, Greenway-court, and other eſtates in this pariſh, to

Francis

Francis Culpeper, eſq. afterwards of Greenway-court, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1598, and his ſon, Sir Thomas Culpeper, alienated it to Mr. Marc Queſted, of London, who upon his death ſettled it for ever on the warden and commonalty of the Company of Fiſhmongers in London, as truſtees of his alms-houſes, founded in the adjoining pariſh of Harrietſham, the endowment of which he directed to be paid out of the yearly profits of this manor, as has been already mentioned, and as ſuch the company are now entitled to the inheritance of it.

HOLLINGBORNE-HILL is a ſeat and eſtate in this pariſh, ſo called from its ſituation on the ſummit of the chalk-hill above Hollingborne-ſtreet. It was formerly called *Eyotts*, and in 1609 was in the poſſeſſion of Sir Martin Barnham, who that year built a new manſion on the ſcite of it, in which he reſided, as did his eldeſt ſon Sir Francis Barnham, but he afterwards parted with it to Gabriel Leveſey, eſq. on whoſe death it came to his ſon and heir Sir Michael Leveſey, and he conveyed all his intereſt in it, in the year 1623, to Sir John Hayward, ſecond ſon of Sir Rowland Hayward, alderman of London, and twice lord-mayor, (by his ſecond wife Catherine, daughter of Cuſtomer Smith). Sir John Hayward, during his reſidence at this ſeat, was ſheriff in the laſt year of James I. and bore for his arms, *Or, a bull's head, caboſhed, between three mullets, ſable.*[w] He died in 1636, without iſſue, having by his laſt will bequeathed his manor of Minſter, in the Iſle of Shepey, to charitable uſes, before which, in 1631, he conveyed it to Cheney Culpeper, eſq. of Greenway-court, and he in 1652 paſſed it away to Henry Pelham, eſq. who by his will in 1658, deviſed it to his nephew George Pelham, who dying *ſ. p.* in 1686, it came by his will, as well as the entail made in that of his uncle, to his brother Charles Pel-

[w] See in Harl. MSS. No. 1174-279, his match and deſcent.

ham, esq. who left a son Charles, then an infant, to whom by his will in 1688, he gave the fee of it, and enjoined him to sell it as soon as he came of age, which he did in 1705, (a fine being levied that year for this purpose) to Baldwin Duppa, esq. descended of the same family as was Brian Duppa, bishop of Winchester, who died in 1662, and Sir Thomas Duppa, gentleman usher of the black rod to king Charles II. but their consanguinity I cannot learn. He bore for his arms, *Azure, a lion's gamb erased in fess, between two chains barways, or.* In the year 1707 he settled this estate on his only son, Baldwin Duppa, esq, though he lived many years after this, and dying in 1737, was buried in this church, where there is a monument erected to his memory. Baldwin Duppa, esq. the son, in 1717, rebuilt this seat on the scite of the old one, and came to reside at it in 1722, and in 1735 served the office of sheriff, and dying unmarried in 1764, was buried in this church, having by his will bequeathed it, with all his other estates, to his kinsman, the Rev. Mr. Richard Hancorn, (whose grandmother was Mr. Duppa's father's eldest sister) with an injunction for him to take the name and arms of Duppa, for which an act passed anno 5 George III. He afterwards quitted the clerical profession, and took the addition of esquire. He resided here, and died in 1789, having married Miss Baas, of Hackney, by whom he had no issue.

Upon his death this, with his other estates, came to his brother Baldwin Hancorn, who took the name of Duppa, as did his son, Baldwin Duppa Duppa, esq. the present possessor of this seat of Hollingborne-hill, where he now resides.*

* See vol. iv. Additions, p. 565.

CHARITIES

CHARITIES.

THREE PIECES of land near Runham, in Lenham, in the occupation of John Butler, of Harrietsham, at the rent of 5l. 5s. per annum, were given, one half to the poor of Hollingborne, having no relief. The donor of them unknown, vested in the minister and churchwardens, now of the annual produce of 2l. 8s. 3d.

MRS. ELIZABETH CAYSER, of Hollingborne, widow, by her will in 1612, left 20l. to purchase a piece of land in fee-simple, out of the rent of which she directed, that every year for ever, upon the day after her death, (Sept. 22, 1615,) 10s. should be distributed amongst twenty of the poorest people of Hollingborne, and 5s. amongst ten of Leeds, and 5s. amongst ten of Bromfield, by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the respective parishes, and that the residue of the rents and profits should be yearly distributed by them amongst the poor of Hollingborne, upon the said 22d of September. The piece of land that was purchased in consequence of the above-mentioned devise, in 1720, lies north-west of Broad-street, in Hollingborne, and is called Little Dane. It contains seven acres, and is in the occupation of John Featherstone, at the yearly rent of 2l. 5s.

DAME FRANCES NORTON, widow, sister of Judith, wife of Robert Austen the elder, esq. of Heronden, gave an estate, purchased in 1719, by deed enrolled, of 35l. per annum, in Hollingborne, for the joint benefit, in equal moieties, of the parishes of Tenterden and Hollingborne. By which she directed, that the profits of the estate to each parish, should be divided into seven divisions; *four parts* thereof to be applied in putting out apprentices the children of parents having no parochial relief. *The three other parts* to be distributed to the ministers of those parishes, each 20s. a piece for two annual sermons, to be preached in their respective parishes on the 1st of November, or All Saints, and on the 1st of January. And *the residue of the three parts*, to ten poor widows or housekeepers, one year in money, and the second year in black and white stuff or cloth gowns, and so alternately for ever; such persons having no parochial relief, and hearing the said two sermons in their own respective parish churches.

This charity was vested in twenty trustees; but the donation and disposition of the profits of the estate, was to be made at the choice of the late Robert Austin, esq. of Heronden, her nephew, deceased, and of his heirs for ever, with the approbation of the churchwardens and overseers of the poor.

This charity, by *a commission of charitable uses*, was settled in 1748, and the deed enrolled was confirmed, and the estate vested in twenty new trustees jointly, to be renewed when reduced to five,

five, and alſo, that the monies unapplied ſhould be laid out in another purchaſe, (after the charge of fixing the charity ſhould be ſatisfied) which was made accordingly, in a farm of 15l. a year in Hollingborne and Hucking, and ſettled as directed by a deed enrolled. And the truſtees, or any four or more of them, are empowered from time to time, to direct the churchwardens or overſeers, and their ſucceſſors for ever, in the due and regular annual performance, execution, and preſervation of this charity.

John Snothe, of Hollingborne, by his will in 1529, deviſed a piece of land, called Potokks, at Greenſtreet, in this pariſh, the yearly rent of it to be employed to keep *an obit* yearly in this church on the nativity of the Virgin Mary, viz. to the curate for ſo doing, 6d. and the remainder to be diſtributed yearly in meat and drink to the poor in this church, yearly on that day for ever.

Hollingborne is within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton; and is *exempt* from the juriſdiction of the archdeacon.

The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is a handſome building, conſiſting of three large iſles, with a chancel at the end of the middle one, and a ſquare tower at the weſt end. The chancel is much enriched with the monuments of the family of Culpeper, of Greenway-court, and for two of the lords Culpeper, one of them by Ryſbrack; on the north ſide is one for Sir Martin Barnham and his two wives, in 1610, their three figures kneeling at a deſk, and underneath their children. At the eaſt end of the north iſle there is a ſmall neat chapel, raiſed up ſeveral ſteps to give room for a vault underneath, in which lie the remains of all this branch of the Culpeper family. The ſides of the chapel are filled with black eſcutcheons, and ſquare tablets of black marble alternately, only two of theſe among the numbers of them are filled up, and thoſe with younger branches of the family ſettled elſewhere, a proof of the diſappointment of the vain endeavours of the builder to tranſmit the memory of his deſcendants to poſterity.

On

On the middle of the pavement is a beautiful raiſed monument of white marble, and the figure of a lady, lying at full length, in the habit of the times, of exceeding good ſculpture, in memory of Elizabeth, lady of Sir Thomas Culpeper, daughter of John Cheney, eſq. of Suſſex, obt. 1638. In the iſle a monument for Nich. Chaloner, eſq. obt. 1706. Againſt the north wall of the north iſle for two of the family of Duppa, and at the lower end of the church, for the Plummers, Collins's, and Dykes. In the middle iſle a ſtone, on which have been the figures of a man and woman in braſs, but two ſhields of arms remain, being quarterly, firſt and fourth, *A chevron, engrailed on a chief, three fleurs de lis*; ſecond and third, *Three fiſhes, wavy, feſsways, in pale.*

There is belonging to this church, a moſt ſuperb altar-cloth, and a pulpit-cloth and cuſhion, of purple velvet, ornamented with different figures of fruits of pomegranets and grapes, wrought in gold, the needle-work of the daughters of Sir John Colepeper, afterwards created lord Colepeper, who employed themſelves for almoſt the ſpace of twelve years in the working of them, during their father's abſence abroad with king Charles II.

The communion plate is very handſome, and anſwerable to the above-mentioned furniture, being moſtly the gift of the family of Colepeper, and ſome of it of Baldwin Duppa, eſq.

John Eweyn, by his will proved in 1527, gave a table of alabaſter, to ſtand upon the altar of St. John the Baptiſt in this church; and money to the repair of St. John's chapel in it. John Aleff, parſon of Hollingborne, as appears by his will in 1537, was buried in the way beſide the porch-door, on the right hand, and that there was ſet in the wall, nigh his grave, a ſtone with a plate of ſculpture, mentioning where and when he was buried. He had before been vicar of

Little

Little Chart, and of St. Laurence Wolton, as he was then of St. John's Sherburne, in Hampſhire.

The church of Hollingborne, to which the chapels of Hucking and Bredhurſt were antiently annexed, is a *ſinecure rectory*, with a vicarage endowed. The rector of Hollingborne is at this time patron of the perpetual curacy of the chapel of Bredhurſt. The archbiſhop is patron both of the rectory and of the vicarage of Hollingborne, the vicar of which is collated to this vicarage, with the chapel of Hucking annexed.

The vicarage was endowed before the year 1407, in which year Arthur Sentleger, the rector, granted to William Maunby, vicar of this church, a meſſuage, with its appurtenances in this pariſh, for the habitation of himſelf and his ſucceſſors for ever.[y] In archbiſhop Chichele's regiſter, at Lambeth, there is an unauthenticated writing of a compoſition, made about the year 1441, for it is without date, between William Lyeff, then rector here, and John Ffylde, vicar, upon the aſſignation of a proper portion for the endowment of this vicarage in future times.

The rectory of Hollingborne is valued in the king's books at 28l. 15s. 5d. and the tenths at 2l. 17s. 6½d. The vicarage is valued in them at 7l. 6s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 14s. 8d. The vicarage in 1640 was valued at eighty-ſix pounds, and the communicants were then 271. It is now of the yearly certified value of 70l. 16s. 8d.

The vicarage was augmented twenty pounds per annum, by leaſe between Ralph Staunton, rector, and Sir Thomas Culpeper, of this pariſh.

The name of Culpeper, or Colepeper, is ſo variouſly ſpelt in different deeds and records, that it is impoſſible to keep with any rule to either ſpelling; on all the monuments, and in the pariſh regiſter, (excepting in two inſtances in the laſt) it is ſpelt Culpeper.

[y] See Ducarel's Repertory, p. 18.

CHURCH

CHURCH OF HOLLINGBORNE, *with the* CHAPEL OF HUCKING *annexed.*

PATRONS,
Or by whom preſented.

Archbiſhop of Canterbury. .....

RECTORS.

Gauſelinus Cardenalis, in 1316.[a]
John Joſcelin, obt. 1603.[a]
John Boys, S. T. B. ind. Feb. 1604.
John Warner, S. T. P. reſigned 1637.[b]
Samuel Bernard, S. T. P. Jan. 15, 1637.[c]
Anthony Saunders, A. M. ind. Dec. 1669, reſig. 1677.
Ralph Staunton, A. M. inducted Oct. 1677.
Mathew Brailsford, S. T. P. ob. 1733.[d]
Edmund Bateman, S. T. P. Feb. 1734, obt. 1751.
John S. Hill, S. T. P. 1751, ob. 1757.
Francis Dodſworth, A. M. November 1757, reſigned April 20, 1774.[e]
John Cautley, A. M. July 1774, obt. March 1, 1797.[f]

VICARS.

..... *White*, obt. 1623.
William Cragge, ind. 1623-4, obt. 1637.
George Bonham, 1637 to 1647.
Phineas Coſby, 1641, ob. 1652.

[a] Rym. Fœd. vol. viii. p. 11.

[b] He vacated this rectory on his promotion to the ſee of Rocheſter.

[c] Rym. Fœd. vol. xx. p. 219.

[d] Dean of Wells.

[e] Treaſurer of the church of Saliſbury, and in 1774, vicar of Doddington.

[f] Rector of St. Rumbald's, in Colcheſter, and in 1778, preſented to the vicarage of Tenham.

[z] Gauſelinus Johannes, biſhop of Alba and Cardinal, was prebendary of Driffield, in the church of York, of Lude, in that of Lincoln, of Sallow, in that of Litchfield, parſon of the churches of Hackney and Stepney, in the dioceſe of London, of Pagham, in the dioceſe of Chicheſter, of Hollingborne and Lyminge, in Canterbury dioceſe, and Hemingborough, in York dioceſe, anno 1343. Rymer's Fœd. vol. v. p. 364.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Archbishop of Canterbury.	*Thomas Yardley*, 1652 to 1660.
	John Shrawley, about 1660.
	William Thomas, 1661, obt. 1681.
	Thomas Gregorie, 1681, ob. June 17, 1696.
	Edward Waterman, 1696, obt. 1725.
	Thomas Taylor, 1725, obt. 1726.
	Thomas Saul Hancock, presented March, 1727, obt. Aug. 16, 1741.[g]
	Benjamin Waterhouse, 1741, resigned 1770.[h]
	Joseph Todd, A. B. Dec. 1770, obt. June, 1773.
	William Hassell, B. A. October 1773, obt. Dec. 1790.
	Edward Hasted, A. B. collated July, 1790, the present vicar.

g Rector also of Wormshill, where he lies buried.

h And vicar of Westwell.

LEEDS

IS the next parish southward from Hollingborne. Kilburne says, that one Ledian, a chief counsellor to king Ethelbert II. who began his reign in 978, raised a fortress here, which was called in Latin, from him, *Ledani Castrum*, and in process of time in English, LEEDS. This castle was afterwards demolished by the Danes, and continued in that situation till the time of the Norman conquest.

THE PRESENT CASTLE is situated at the south-east boundary of this parish, adjoining to Bromfield, which includes a part of the castle itself. It is situated in the midst of the park, an ample description of it the reader will find hereafter. The Lenham rivulet

vulet takes its courſe through the park, and having ſupplied the moat, in which the caſtle ſtands, and the ſeveral waters in the grounds there, and having received into it the ſeveral ſmall ſtreamlets from Hollingborne, and one from the oppoſite ſide, which comes from Leeds abbey, it flows on, and at a ſmall diſtance from Caring ſtreet, in this pariſh, adjoining to Berſted, the principal eſtate of which name there belongs to the Drapers company, it turns a mill, and then goes on to Maidſtone, where it joins the river Medway. The high road from Aſhford and Lenham runs cloſe by the outſide of the pales of Leeds park, at the northern boundary of the pariſh next to Hollingborne, and thence goes on towards Berſted and Maidſtone, from which the park is diſtant a little more than five miles; here the ſoil is a deep ſand, but near the river it changes to a black mooriſh earth. Southward from the caſtle the ground riſes, at about three quarters of a mile ſouth-weſt from it is Leeds abbey, the front of which is a handſome well-looking building, of the time of queen Elizabeth. It is not unpleaſantly ſituated on a gentle eminence, and is well watered by a ſmall ſtream which riſes juſt above it, and here turns a mill. It is well cloathed with wood at the back part of it, to which the ground ſtill keeps riſing; adjoining to the abbey grounds weſtward is Leeds-ſtreet, a long ſtraggling row of houſes, near a mile in length, having the church at the ſouth end of it; here the ſoil becomes a red unfertile earth much mixed with flints, which continues till it joins to Langley and Otham.

LEEDS was part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux; accordingly it is thus entered, under the general title of that prelate's lands, in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken in the year 1080.

Adelold holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Eſiedes. It was taxed at three ſulings. The arable land is twelve carucates.

carucates. In demeſne there are two carucates, and twenty-eight villeins, with eight borderers, having ſeven carucates. There is a church, and eighteen ſervants. There are two arpends of vineyard, and eight acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of twenty hogs, and five mills of the villeins. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth ſixteen pounds, the like when he received it, now twenty pounds, and yet it pays twenty-five pounds. Earl Leuuin held it.

Of this manor the abbot of St. Auguſtine has half a ſuling, which is worth ten ſhillings, in exchange of the park of the biſhop of Baieux. The earl of Ewe has four denns of this manor, which are worth twenty ſhillings.

The mention of the *two arpends of vineyard* in the above ſurvey, is another inſtance of there having been ſuch in this county in early times, ſome further obſervations of which the reader will find in the deſcription of the pariſh of Chart Sutton, not far diſtant, and he will likewiſe obſerve, that at the above time the biſhop of Baieux had *a park here*, which he acquired by exchange with the abbot of St. Auguſtine, who muſt therefore have had poſſeſſions here before that time.

On the biſhop of Baieux's diſgrace, about four years after the taking of the above-mentioned ſurvey, this eſtate, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions, became confiſcated to the crown.

After which it was granted by king William to the eminent family of Crevequer, called in antient charters *Creveceur*, and in Latin, *De Crepito Corde*, who at firſt made Chatham in this county their ſeat, or *caput baroniæ*, i. e. the principal manor of their barony, for ſome time, until they removed hither, being before frequently written *Domini de Cetham*.

Robert, ſon of Hamon de Crevequer, who had probably a grant of Leeds from the Conqueror, appears to have held it of the king, as of his caſtle of Dover, *in capite* by barony, their barony, which conſiſted of five knight's fees, being ſtiled *Baronia de Crevequer*.

vequer.[i] He erected the caſtle here, to which he afterwards removed the capital ſeat of his barony. This caſtle being environed with water, was frequently mentioned in antient writings by the name of Le Mote. In the north-weſt part of it he built a chapel, in which he placed three canons, which on his foundation of the priory of Leeds, in the 19th year of king Henry I. he removed thither.

His deſcendant, Hamon de Crevequer, lived in the reign of king Henry III. in the 19th year of which, he was joined with *Walerand Teutonicus*, or *Teys*, in the wardenſhip of the five ports, and the next year had poſſeſſion granted to him of the lands of William de Albrincis or Averenches, whoſe daughter and heir Maud he had married. He died in the 47th year of king Henry III. poſſeſſed of the manor of Ledes, held of the king *in capite*, as belonging to his barony of Chatham; upon which Robert, his grandſon, viz. ſon of Hamon his ſon, who died in his life-time, ſucceeded him as his heir, and in the 52d year of that reign, exchanged the manor of Ledes, with its appurtenances, together with a moiety of all his fees, with Roger de Leyburne, for the manors of Trotteſclyve and Flete. He left William de Leyburne, his ſon and heir, who in the 2d year of king Edward I. had poſſeſſion granted to him of the manor of Ledes, as well as of the reſt of his inheritance, of which Eleanor, counteſs of Wincheſter, his father's widow, was not endowed.[k]

His ſon, William de Leyborne, obſerving that the king looked on the ſtrength of this fortreſs with a jealous eye, in the beginning of king Edward Iſt.'s reign reinſtated the crown in the poſſeſſion of both the manor and caſtle; and the king having, in his 27th year mar-

[i] See more of the Crevequers under Chatham, vol. iv. p. 205.

[k] Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 14. See more of this family under Leyborne, vol. iv. p. 498.

ried Margaret, ſiſter of Philip, king of France, he ſettled them, being then of the clear yearly value of 211. 6s. 8d. among other premiſes, as part of her dower. She ſurvived the king her huſband, who died in 1307, and in the 5th year of the next reign of king Edward II. by the king's recommendation, appointed Bartholomew de Badleſmere, a nobleman of great power and eminence, and much in that prince's favor, governor of this caſtle.[1] She died poſſeſſed of them in the 10th year of that reign; on which they came once more into the hands of the crown, and in the beginning of the next year the king appointed Bartholomew de Badleſmere, above-mentioned, governor of this caſtle, as well as of that of Briſtol. In the 11th year of that reign, the king granted to him in fee, this manor and caſtle, and the advowſon of the priory of Ledes, in exchange for the manor of Addreſley, in Shropſhire. Being poſſeſſed of great poſſeſſions, eſpecially in this county, he was uſually ſtiled, *the rich lord Badleſmere of Ledes.* Being puffed up through ambition and his great wealth, he forgot his allegiance, and aſſociated himſelf with the earl of Lancaſter, and the diſcontented barons; which the king being well informed of, reſolved, if poſſible, to gain poſſeſſion of this ſtrong fortreſs of Ledes: to effect which, under pretence of the queen's going on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, ſhe ſet forward for that city with a large train of attendants, and, with a ſecret intention of ſurpriſing this caſtle, ſent her marſhal with others of her ſervants, to prepare lodging for her and her ſuit in it. The lord Badleſmere's family, that is, his wife, ſon, and four daughters, were at that time in it, together with all his treaſure, depoſited there for ſafety, under the care of Thomas Colepeper, the caſtellan, who refuſed the queen's ſervants admittance, and on her coming up, peremptorily

[1] Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 57. See more of the Badleſmeres under Chilham and Badleſmere.

perſiſted

perſiſted in denying her or any one entrance, without letters from his lord. The queen, upon this, made ſome attempt to gain admittance by force, and a ſkirmiſh enſued, in which one or more of her attendants were ſlain, but being repulſed, ſhe was obliged to relinquiſh her deſign, and to retire for a lodging elſewhere.

The king, chagrined at the failure of his ſcheme, and highly reſenting the indignity offered to the queen, ſent a force under the earls of Pembroke and Richmond, to beſiege the caſtle;[m] and thoſe within it finding no hopes of relief, for though the lord Badleſmere had induced the barons to endeavour to raiſe the ſiege, yet they never advanced nearer than Kingſton, yielded it up. Upon which, the lady Badleſmere and her children were ſent priſoners to the tower of London, Thomas Colepeper, the caſtellan, was hung up, and the king took poſſeſſion of the caſtle, as well as of all the lord Badleſmere's goods and treaſures in it. But by others, Thomas de Aldone is ſaid to have been caſtellan at this time, and that the caſtle being taken, he, with the lord Badleſmere's wife, his only ſon Giles, his daughters, Sir Bartholomew de Burgerſhe, and his wife, were ſent to the tower of London by the king's order; and that afterwards, he cauſed Walter Colepeper, bailiff of the Seven Hundreds, to be drawn in a pitiable manner at the tails of horſes, and to be hung juſt by this caſtle; on which Thomas Colepeper, and others, who were with him in Tunbridge caſtle, hearing of the king's approach, fled to the barons.

After which the lord Badleſmere, being taken priſoner in Yorkſhire, was ſent to Canterbury, and there drawn and hanged at the gallows of Blean, and his head being cut off, was ſet on a pole on Burgate, in that city. Upon which the manor and caſtle of Leeds, became part of the royal revenue and the caſtle re-

[m] Pat. Roll, anno 15 Edward II. Oct. 17, dat. *apud turrim*, ps. 1 ma.

mained in a moſt ruinous condition till the year 1359, anno 34 Edward III. in which year that munificent prelate, William of Wickham, was conſtituted by the king, chief warden and ſurveyor of his caſtle of Ledes, among others,[a] having power to appoint all workmen, to provide materials, and to order every thing with regard to building and repairs; and in thoſe manors to hold leets and other courts of treſpaſs and miſdemeanors, and to enquire of the king's liberties and rights; and from his attention to the re-edifying and rebuilding the reſt of them, there is little doubt but he reſtored this of Leeds to a very ſuperior ſtate to whatever it had been before, inſomuch, that it induced king Richard to viſit it ſeveral times, particularly in his 19th year, in which ſeveral of his inſtruments were dated at his caſtle of Ledes; and it appears to have been at that time accounted a fortreſs of ſome ſtrength, for in the beginning of the next reign, that unfortunate prince was, by order of king Henry IV. ſent priſoner to this caſtle; and that king himſelf reſided here part of the month of April in his 2d year.

After which, archbiſhop Arundel, whoſe mind was by no means inferior to his high birth, procured a grant of this caſtle, where he frequently reſided and kept his court, whilſt the proceſs againſt the lord Cobham was carrying forward, and ſome of his inſtruments were dated from his caſtle of Ledes in the year 1413, being the year in which he died. On his death it reverted again to the crown, and became accounted as one of the king's houſes, many of the principal gentry of the county being intruſted with the cuſtody of it.

In the 7th year of king Henry V. Joane of Navarre, the ſecond queen of the late king Henry IV. being accuſed of conſpiring againſt the life of the king, her ſon-in-law, was committed to Leeds-caſtle, there to remain during the king's pleaſure; and being after-

[a] Lowth's Life of Wickham, p. 23.

wards

wards ordered into Sir John Pelham's cuſtody, he removed her to the caſtle of Pevenſey, in Suſſex.

In the 18th year of king Henry VI. archbiſhop Chichele ſat at the king's caſtle of Leeds, in the proceſs againſt Eleanor, ducheſs of Glouceſter, for ſorcery and witchcraft.

King Edward IV. in his 11th year, made Ralph St. Leger, eſq. of Ulcomb, who had ſerved the office of ſheriff of this county three years before, conſtable of this caſtle for life, and annexed one of the parks as a farther emolument to that office. He died that year, and was buried with his anceſtors at Ulcomb.

Sir Thomas Bourchier reſided at Leeds caſtle in the 1ſt year of king Richard III. in which year he had commiſſion, among others of the principal gentry of this county, to receive the oaths of allegiance to king Richard, of the inhabitants of the ſeveral parts of Kent therein mentioned; in which year, the king confirmed the liberties of Leeds priory, in recompence of twenty-four acres of land in Bromfield, granted for the enlargement of his park of Ledes.

In the 4th year of king Henry VIII. Henry Guildford, eſq. had a grant of the office of conſtable of Leeds caſtle, and of the parkerſhip of it; and in the 12th year of that reign, he had a grant of the cuſtody of the manor of Leeds, with ſundry perquiſites, for forty years. He died in the 23d year of that reign, having re-edified great part of the caſtle, at the king's no ſmall charge.

But *the fee ſimple* of the manor and caſtle of Leeds remained in the hands of the crown, till Edward VI. in his 6th year, granted them, with their appurtenances in the pariſhes of Leeds, Langley, and Sutton, to Sir Anthony St. Leger, lord deputy of Ireland, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice.

His ſon, Sir Warham St. Leger, ſucceeded him in this manor and caſtle, and was afterwards chief governor of Munſter, in Ireland, in which province he was unfortunately

fortunately ſlain in 1599,[o] but before his death he alienated this manor and caſtle to Sir Richard Smyth, fourth ſon of Thomas Smyth, eſq. of Weſtenhanger, commonly called Cuſtomer Smyth.

Sir Richard Smyth reſided at Leeds caſtle, of which he died poſſeſſed in 1628, and was buried in Aſhford church, where there is a coſtly monument erected to his memory.

Sir John Smith, his only ſon, ſucceeded his father, and reſided at Leeds caſtle, and dying *ſ. p.* in 1632, was buried in this church; upon which his two ſiſters, Alice, wife of Sir Timothy Thornhill, and Mary, of Maurice Barrow, eſq. became his coheirs, and entitled their reſpective huſbands to the property of this manor and caſtle, which they afterwards joined in the ſale of to Sir T. Culpeper, of Hollingborne, who ſettled this eſtate, after his purchaſe of it, on his eldeſt ſon Cheney Culpeper, remainder to his two other ſons, Francis and Thomas. Cheney Culpeper, eſq. reſided at Leeds-caſtle for ſome time, till at length perſuading his brother Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Hollingborne, (then his only ſurviving brother, Francis being dead *ſ. p.*) to cut off the entail of this eſtate, he alienated it to his couſin Sir John Colepeper, lord Colepeper, only ſon of Sir John Culpeper, of Wigſell, in Suſſex, whoſe younger brother Francis was of Greenway-court, in Hollingborne, and was father of Sir Thomas Culpeper, the purchaſer of this eſtate as before-mentioned.

Sir John Colepeper repreſented this county in parliament in the 16th year of king Charles I. and being a perſon, who by his abilities had raiſed himſelf much in the king's favor, was made of his privy council, and chancellor of the exchequer, afterwards maſter of the rolls, and governor of the Iſle of Wight. During the troubles of that monarch, he continued ſtedfaſt to the

[o] Philipott, p. 214. Iriſh Peer. vol. iii. p. 172 et ſeq.

royal

royal cauſe, and as a reward for his ſervices, was in 1644 created lord Colepeper, baron of Thoreſway, in Lincolnſhire.

After the king's death he continued abroad with king Charles II. in his exile. During his abſence, Leeds-caſtle ſeems to have been in the poſſeſſion of the uſurping powers, and to have been made uſe of by them, for the aſſembling of their committee men and ſequeſtrators, and for a receptacle to impriſon the ejected miniſters, for in 1652, all his eſtates had been declared by parliament forfeited, for treaſon againſt the ſtate. He died in 1660, a few weeks only after the reſtoration, and was buried at Hollingborne. He bore for his arms, *Argent, a bend ingrailed gules*, the antient bearing of this family; he left by his ſecond wife Judith, daughter of Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Hollingborne, ſeveral children, of whom Thomas was his ſucceſſor in title and eſtates, and died without male iſſue as will be mentioned hereafter, John ſucceeded his brother in the title, and died in 1719 *ſ. p.* and Cheney ſucceeded his brother in the title, and died at his reſidence of Hoſton St John, in 1725, *ſ. p.* likewiſe, by which the title became extinct; they all, with the reſt of the branch of the family, lie buried at Hollingborne. Thomas, lord Colepeper, the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded his father in title, and in this manor and caſtle, where he reſided, and having married Margaret, daughter of Signior Jean de Heſſe, of a noble family in Germany, he left by her a ſole daughter and heir Catherine, who intitled her huſband Thomas, lord Fairfax, of Cameron, in Scotland, to this manor and caſtle, with his other eſtates in this neighbourhood.

The family of Fairfax appear by old evidences in the hands of the family to have been in poſſeſſion of lands in Yorkſhire near ſix hundred years ago. Richard Fairfax was poſſeſſed of lands in that county in the reign of king John, whoſe grandſon William Fairfax in the time of king Henry III. purchaſed the manor of

Walton, in the Weſt Riding, where he and his ſucceſſors reſided for many generations afterwards, and from whom deſcended the Fairfax's, of Walton and Gilling, in Yorkſhire; of whom, Sir Thomas Fairfax, of Gilling, was created viſcount Fairfax, of the kingdom of Ireland, which title became extinct in 1772; and from a younger branch of them deſcended Sir Thomas Fairfax, of Denton, who lived in queen Elizabeth's reign, and changed the original field of his coat armour from *argent* to *or*, bearing for his arms, *Or, 3 bars gemelles, gules, ſurmounted of a lion rampant, ſable, crown'd, of the firſt*, and was father of Sir T. Fairfax, who was, for his ſervices to James and Charles I. created in 1627 lord Fairfax, baron of Cameron, in Scotland. He died in 1640, having had ten ſons and two daughters; of whom, Ferdinando was his ſucceſſor; Henry was rector of Bolton Percy, and had two ſons, Henry, who became lord Fairfax, and Bryan, who was anceſtor of Bryan Fairfax, late commiſſioner of the cuſtoms; and colonel Charles Fairfax, of Menſton, was the noted antiquary, whoſe iſſue ſettled there.

Ferdinando, the ſecond lord Fairfax, in the civil wars of king Charles I. was made general of the parliamentary forces, and died at York in 1646. His ſon, Sir Thomas Fairfax, ſucceeded him as lord Fairfax, and in all his poſts under the parliament, and was that famous general ſo noted in Engliſh hiſtory during the civil wars, being made commander in chief of all the parliamentary forces; but at laſt he grew ſo weary of the diſtreſs and confuſion which his former actions had brought upon his unhappy country, that he heartily concurred in the reſtoration of king Charles II. After which he retired to his ſeat at Bilborough, in Yorkſhire, where he died in 1671, and was buried there, leaving by Anne, daughter and coheir of Horatio, lord Vere of Tilbury, a truly loyal and virtuous lady, an only daughter; upon which the title devolved to Henry Fairfax, eſq. of Ogleſthorpe, in Yorkſhire, his firſt couſin,

couſin, eldeſt ſon of Henry, rector of Bolton Percy, the ſecond ſon of Thomas, the firſt lord Fairfax. Henry, lord Fairfax, died in 1680, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon Thomas, fifth lord Fairfax, who was bred to a military life, and roſe to the rank of a brigadier-general. He repreſented Yorkſhire in ſeveral parliaments and marrying Catherine, daughter and heir of Thomas, lord Colepeper, poſſeſſed, in her right this manor and caſtle, and other large poſſeſſions, as before-mentioned.[p]

He died poſſeſſed of them in 1710, leaving three ſons and four daughters, Thomas, who ſucceeded him as lord Fairfax; Henry Culpeper, who died unmarried, in 1734; and Robert, of whom hereafter. Of the daughters, Margaret married David Wilkins, D. D. and prebendary of Canterbury, and Francis married Denny Martin, eſq. Thomas, lord Fairfax, the ſon, reſided at Leeds-caſtle till his quitting England, to reſide on his great poſſeſſions in Virginia, where he continued to the time of his death. On his departure from England, he gave up the poſſeſſion of this manor and caſtle, with his other eſtates in this neighbourhood, to his only ſurviving brother, the hon. Robert Fairfax, who afterwards reſided at Leeds-caſtle, and on his brother's death unmarried, in 1782, ſucceeded to the title of lord Fairfax. He was at firſt bred to a military life, but becoming poſſeſſed of Leeds caſtle, he retired there, and afterwards twice ſerved in parliament for the town of Maidſtoue, as he did afterwards in two ſucceſſive parliaments for this county. He was twice married; firſt to Martha, daughter and coheir of Anthony Collins, eſq. of Baddow, in Eſſex, by whom he had one ſon, who died an infant; and, ſecondly, to one

[p] In the Britiſh Muſeum, among the Harleian MSS. are ſeveral pedigrees of this family, and likewiſe more than one MSS. copy of the memorial of the parliamentary general Thomas, lord Fairfax, of his military tranſactions during his command as ſuch. No. 1786, 2315, and 6390.

of

of the daughters of Thomas Beſt, eſq. of Chatham, who died *ſ. p.* in 1750. Lord Fairfax dying *ſ. p.* in 1793, this caſtle and manor, with the reſt of his eſtates in this county, came to his nephew the Rev. Denny Martin, the eldeſt ſon of his ſiſter Frances, by Denny Martin, eſq. of Looſe, who had before his uncle's death been created D. D. and had, with the royal licence, aſſumed the name and arms of Fairfax. Dr. Fairfax is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor and caſtle, and reſides here, being at preſent unmarried.

A court leet and court baron is held for the manor of Leeds, at which three borſholders are appointed. It is divided into ſix diviſions, or *yokes* as they are called, viz. Church-yoke, Ferinland-yoke, Mill-yoke, Ruſſerken-yoke, Stockwell-yoke, and Lees-yoke.

Leeds caſtle is a magnificent pile of building, being built of ſtone, at ſeveral times, and of different architecture; notwithſtanding which, it has altogether a fine effect. It is pleaſantly ſituated in the midſt of a beautiful park, and is incircled by a large moat of running water, in which there is great plenty of fiſh, eſpecially pike, which are ſo large as frequently to weigh between thirty and forty pounds. At the entrance to the caſtle are the remains of an antient gateway, which has been pulled down to within about a yard of the ground. What is left, ſhews it to have been very ſtrong; the groove for the portcullis is ſtill remaining. A little to the north-weſt of it is the ruin of a very antient building, perhaps that part of the caſtle in which Robert de Crevequer placed the three chaplains at his firſt erection of it, as has been already mentioned before.

The approach to the caſtle is over a ſtone bridge of two arches, and under another antient gateway, which, with the part already deſcribed, ſeems to have been part of the old fortreſs, built by the Crevequers, and not demoliſhed at the time the reſt of it was. Within the laſt-mentioned gate, is an handſome quadrangle or court, and on the right hand a building, which ſeems

by

by the architecture, to be of the time of William of Wickham, and might be part of what he erected here. That part at the further ſide of the ſquare, oppoſite the entrance, contains the ſtate or principal apartments, which has had a handſome uniform front of ruſtic ſtone work added to it; the windows of it, though ſaſhed, are arched in the gothic taſte, and the parapet is embattled. Behind this building, over a bridge of two arches, formerly a draw bridge, but now built on and incloſed as a paſſage, there is a large building, being the extremity of the caſtle; this is a handſome ſtructure, of ſightly workmanſhip, intended no doubt both for beauty and ſtrength, and ſeems to be of the age of king Henry VIII. If ſo, in all likelihood, it was erected by Sir Henry Guildford, who was conſtable of it in that reign, and, as has been already mentioned, re-edified this caſtle at the king's charge. The ſcite of this building, from the ſtrength and ſituation of the place, was moſt probably where the antient keep of the caſtle was formerly placed.

On the evening of Tueſday, Nov. 3, 1779, his majeſty king George III. and his conſort queen Charlotte, after having reviewed the grand camp on Cockſheath, honored this caſtle with their preſence. The next day they received here the compliments of the nobility, general officers, and many of the principal gentry of the county, as well of the mayor, and other members of the corporation of the neighbouring town of Maidſtone; and next morning ſet out, amidſt the acclamations of thouſands, for London, highly pleaſed with this caſtle and its environs, and the reception they met with from the poſſeſſor of it.

ROBERT DE CREVEQUER, with the aſſiſtance of Adam de Crevequer his ſon, in the year 1119, founded A PRIORY at Leeds for black canons regular, of the order of St. Auguſtine, and by his charter gave them a ſcite for the founding of their church, in honor of St. Mary and St. Nicholas, and other convenient buildings

ings for the religious, as it was then incloſed and bounded off. And he gave them the forſtall, which was before their gate, and the land which lay on both ſides of it; which gift was afterwards confirmed by Daniel de Crevequer his ſon, as it was by his ſon Robert, who gave them the mill of Brandeſcompe, in Ledes, and free common in all his fright here, to feed their cattle in, at all times of the year; and that their conventual church being vacant, they ſhould have the free cuſtody of it, and the diſpoſal and ordering of all their poſſeſſions and goods; and he gave them his wood, called Eaſt-park, with the lands adjoining to it, in this pariſh, in pure and perpetual alms.

Robert, ſon of Hamon de Crevequer, junior, anno 3 Edward I. confirmed all the gifts made to the canons of Ledes by his anceſtors or himſelf, within his barony as before-mentioned; and that on a vacancy, they ſhould chuſe their priors, reſerving, however, the approbation of them, as had been uſed of old time to his anceſtors.[q]

Pope Innocent III. in 1198, confirmed the ſubjection of this priory to the juriſdiction of the ſee of Canterbury. And Edward III. in his 41ſt year, by letters of *inſpeximus*, confirmed to the canons of the church of Ledes, i. e. the priory, then of his patronage, all the former donations made by the Crevequers to them.

The archdeacon of Canterbury claimed the privilege of inſtalling the prior of Ledes, at which time he ſtaid at the priory for two nights and a day, and received his victuals and drink for that time, but nothing further.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. anno 1384, the total of the ſpiritualities and temporalities of this priory was valued at 220l. 12s. 8d.

In which reign Thomas Hazlewood, canon here, after he had taught towards his old age, applied himſelf to reading and writing hiſtory. He wrote many things,

[q] Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 110 et ſeq.

and

and among others, a work which he entitled, *A Compendious Chronicle.*

King Richard III. in his firſt year confirmed the liberties of this priory.

James Goldewelle, LL. D. biſhop of Norwich, in the reign of Henry VII. finding this convent deeply in debt, and unable to ſupport their uſual hoſpitality, relieved them bounteouſly, inſomuch, that they acknowledged him in ſome meaſure as the founder of their houſe. And the biſhop, being rather deſirous for the health of his ſoul, than the repayment of the money, founded a chantry of one prieſt, at the altar of the Virgin Mary, in the ſouth part of the nave of this conventual church; to which the prior and convent acceded, by their inſtrument in 1487. On Dec. 22, 1534, anno 26 Henry VIII. the prior and convent of the houſe or priory of Lyddis ſigned the act of ſucceſſion and the king's ſupremacy; at which time there were, a prior, ſupprior, and ten canons, in this priory, who then ſigned this inſtrument.

In which ſituation it remained till the 31ſt year of Henry VIII. when an act paſſed, for confirming to the king and his ſucceſſors all religious houſes, which had been ſuppreſſed ſince the former act of the 27th year of that reign, or might be in future ſuppreſſed. In conſequence of which, the prior and convent of Leeds, among others, were in a manner conſtrained to ſurrender their houſe, lands, and poſſeſſions, then valued at 362l. 7s. 7d. per annum, into the king's hands. This being one of thoſe religious houſes, which by the ſtatute of 31 Henry VIII. is capable of exemption from tithes; ſuch being ſurrendered into the king's hands, in as free and ample a manner as the religious themſelves held and enjoyed the ſame.[r] Thomas Day was the laſt prior of it who ſurrendered this priory into the

[r] See Burn' Eccleſ. Law, vol. iii. p. 382.

king's

king's hands in 1539, anno 31 Henry VIII. and had a penſion of eighty pounds per annum allowed to him.

The prior of Ledes was ſummoned to parliament anno 49 Henry III. but I do not find any ſummons directed to him afterwards.

The arms of this priory were, *Argent, a croſs voided, gules*, in imitation of their founders the Crevequers, who bore, *Gules, a croſs, or*.

The chartulary, or ledger-book of this priory, is now in the poſſeſſion of Sir Beverſham Filmer, bart.

Leeds abbey, by which name it has been long known, by the antient remains of it, appears to have been a ſpacious building. The church of it is ſaid to have been in ſize and beauty equal to many of our cathedrals. There was a noted figure of the Virgin Mary in it, beſide the altar of St. Katherine. There were likewiſe altars in it dedicated to St. Martin and St. Anne. In this church, Leland, Itin. vol. vi. p. 7, ſays, were buried three of the Crevequers, Robert, Robert, and Thomas. Guido Mone, who was prebendary of Stow Longa, in Lincoln cathedral, and afterwards biſhop of St. David's, died at his houſe at Charlton, in Kent, in 1407, and was buried here. Joane Goodherſt, widow, by her will in 1485, directed to be buried in the church of this priory, under the tomb of John Iprys, eſq. her late father, if it conveniently might be, but if not, then in the cemetery of the pariſh church, near the burying-place of her huſband. There are not any remains of this church now left.

The year after the diſſolution of the priory, the king demiſed to Sir Anthony St. Leger, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of 22l. 17s. 2d. the houſe and ſcite of this priory, with all houſes, mills, &c. within the precinct of it, and lands therein mentioned, containing together three hundred and twenty-three acres, and other premiſes, in the tenure of the ſaid Anthony St. Leger; all which were in this pariſh, and lately belonged to the late priory here; excepting all houſes and

and buildings within the precinct of it, which the king had already ordered to be pulled down and carried away. In which ſtate it continued till the reign of king Edward VI. when that king, by his letters patent, in his 4th year, granted to Sir Anthony St. Leger, of Ulcomb, knight of the garter, &c. the ſcite of the priory, and all orchards, gardens, &c. and all thoſe demeſne lands and woods of this priory, lying in Leeds, Langley, Sutton Valence, and Bromfield, containing by eſtimation two hundred and twenty-nine acres, to hold of the king *in capite* by knight's ſervice. But the reſt of the eſtates of this diſſolved priory, being by far the greateſt part of the manors and poſſeſſions of it, were ſettled by king Henry VIII. in his 33d year, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rocheſter, an account of which may be ſeen in different parts of this hiſtory.

Sir Anthony St. Leger died poſſeſſed of this eſtate in 1559,[a] and was ſucceeded in it by his ſon Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcomb, who in the 15th year of Elizabeth veſted it in truſtees for the ſale of it, and they quickly afterwards ſold it to Norden, who ſoon afterwards parted with it to Francis Colepeper, eſq. of Greenway-court, in Hollingborne, who not long after tranſmitted it back again to Norden, and he immediately afterwards alienated it to William Covert, whoſe ſon William Covert, eſq. reſided here, and new built the front of the houſe, as it now remains, and repaired and re-edified much of the reſt of the antient buildings of the priory, over a ſtone portal on the weſt ſide of which, the initials of his name, W. C. and the date, 1598, ſtill remain.

In the 6th year of king James I. he ſold this priory, or abbey of Leeds, as it came then to be called, with the lands belonging to it, being then held *in capite*, to Sir William Meredith, of Stanſty, in Denbighſhire, and then removed to Vintners, in Boxley. Sir William

[a] See an account of the St. Legers under Ulcomb.

Meredith

Meredith afterwards reſided here, and bore for his arms, *Azure, a lion rampant, or.*

His ſon, William Meredith, eſq. was of Leeds-abbey, and in the 14th year of James I. purchaſed of Sir Warham St. Leger other lands and woods in the adjoining pariſhes, held in like manner, and ſix years afterwards, anno 1622, was created a baronet. He had by his firſt wife ſix ſons, and ſix daghters: of whom, Richard, the ſecond, but eldeſt ſurviving ſon, ſucceeded him in title; and Roger, the ſixth, was a maſter in chancery, but died *ſ. p.* One of the daughters, Elizabeth, married Sir Henry Oxenden, bart. of Deane, whoſe ſecond wife ſhe was, by whom ſhe had a numerous iſſue, from one of whom the late Sir Geo. Oxenden, bart. was deſcended. He died in 1675, and was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſurviving ſon, Sir Richard Meredith, bart. who had ſix ſons and five daughters; of whom Sir William Meredith, bart. the eldeſt ſon, was of Leeds-abbey, and died unmarried; Henry, the ſecond ſon, was a colonel in the army, and left an only daughter Suſanna, born in 1710. He died in 1711, at Leeds-abbey, in his father's life-time; Richard, the third ſon, ſucceeded his brother William in the title and in this ſeat, and died unmarried; Thomas, the fourth ſon, repreſented this county in the 12th year of William III. and died before his brothers *ſ. p.* Philip died unmarried; and Roger, the ſixth ſon, ſucceeded to the title of baronet and this ſeat, on the death of his brother Sir Richard, who died unmarried in 1723.

Sir Roger Meredith, bart. reſided at Leeds-abbey, and in 1727 was choſen to repreſent this county in parliament. He married Mary, daughter of Francis Tyſſen, eſq. of Shacklewell, widow of Samuel Gott, eſq. and dying in 1738, *ſ. p.* was buried in a vault in the ſouth chancel of this church, having a handſome monument erected to his memory, and by his will deviſed this ſeat, among the reſt of his eſtates, to his niece Suſanna, (only daughter of his brother colonel Henry Meredith,

Meredith, before-mentioned) in tail general; remainder to ſeveral different perſons in tail male.

Mrs. Suſanna Meredith reſided at Leeds-abbey, where ſhe died unmarried in 1758, and her uncle Sir Roger Meredith, having omitted to deviſe the fee of this eſtate after the above-mentioned remainders, it became veſted in her, as his ſole heir; ſhe, therefore, by her will, deviſed the fee of it to her heir-at-law, Sir George Oxenden, bart. the direct deſcendant of her grandfather, Sir Richard Meredith's ſiſter Elizabeth.

On Mrs. Meredith's death, unmarried, Walter Hooper, eſq. of London, the intermediate remainders having ceaſed, became poſſeſſed, by the limitation in Sir Roger Meredith's will, of this ſeat and eſtate, and reſided here, where he died in 1758, *ſ. p.* on which, it came by the entail above-mentioned, to his nephew, William Jumper, eſq. of Stockbury, as tenant in tail male likewiſe, who afterwards reſided here, and in the year 1761 ſerved the office of ſheriff for this county. He joined with Sir George Oxenden, bart. in whom the fee of it was veſted by Miſs Meredith's will, in the ſale of this ſeat, with the eſtate belonging to it, in 1765 to John Calcraft, eſq. of Ingreſs, who made conſiderable improvements and additions to the houſe and the grounds adjoining to it. He bore for his arms, *Per feſs, argent and ermine, three lions paſſant-guardant, in pale ſable, all within a bordure, wavy, azure*, granted in 1770,[t] and died poſſeſſed of it in 1772, deviſing this, among the reſt of his eſtates, to his eldeſt ſon, John Calcraft, eſq. who married Elizabeth, third daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Pym Hales, bart. deceaſed, and at times reſides here, being the preſent poſſeſſor of this eſtate; to which there belongs a manor, called *Barnes Garden*, for which a court baron is regularly held.

[t] Edmondſon's Heraldry, vol. ii. appendix of arms.

In the hamlet of Nash, in this parish, about a quarter of a mile westward from Leeds-park, is a house called Battle-hall, which from the remains of gothic architecture in it, seems to be of some antiquity, for there is still remaining in it, a large gothic stone arch, supported by two images, which reaches entirely to the top of the house; there is also, a door-case of stone, in which is a groove for a portcullis, which seems to have led into some place of safety; there is besides, on the other side of the house, a fair-place for holy water. Some have supposed this to have been the place where Robert de Crevequer, the founder of Leeds-castle, had placed the three canons, which he afterwards removed to Leeds-priory on his foundation of it. But the most antient parts of this building seem to be of a much later date, and if that was the purpose of it, the house must have been rebuilt since. Whatever it was, it remained a lay fee, and in the reign of Henry VII. was in the possession of Robert Chambre, who in the 16th year of that reign, released his claim and right to Robert Wotton, gent. of Boughton Malherb, Christopher Porter, clerk, &c. in his tenement, called Battaile-hall, with its appurtenances, situated at Nash, in Ledes. It afterwards came to be the property of the Coverts, of Leeds-abbey, with whom it staid till Sir John Covert passed it away to Mr. Harsnet; after some intermediate owners it came into the possession of Mr. Samuel Quested, of whom it was bought by the Hon. Robert Fairfax, who repaired and fitted it up for his residence, till his removal to Leeds-castle; since whose death it is become, with the rest of his estates, the property of his nephew the Rev. Dr. Denny Martin Fairfax, the present owner of it.

CHARITIES.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cayser, of Hollingborne, widow, gave by will, in 1612, a sum of money to buy land, which has been since purchased in that parish; out of the rents of which she directed, there should be yearly paid on the anniversary of her death

death, Sept. 22, 5s. among ten of the pooreſt of the pariſh of Leeds, by the miniſter, churchwardens, and overſeers of it.

ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT gave a ſilver cup and plate, for the ſervice of the ſacrament.

CHARLES LUMSDEN, gent. in 1732, gave the ſum of 100l. as an augmentation of the miniſter's ſalary, on condition of his reſiding, otherwiſe the yearly income of it to be given to the poor of this pariſh, veſted in the three per cents, in the name of the archbiſhop, and of the annual produce of 6l.

MRS. SUSANNA MEREDITH, of Leeds-abbey, gave a complete ſet of communion-plate on Eaſter-day, 1751.

THE HON. ROBERT FAIRFAX gave four new bells, and other additional ornaments to the ſteeple of this church.

The poor relieved here conſtantly are about 28, caſually 25.

LEEDS is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which is ſituated at a ſmall diſtance northward from Leeds-ſtreet, is dedicated to St. Nicholas. It has three iſles and three chancels, with a remarkable ſquare low tower at the weſt end, and on it a low ſmall ſpire. There are remains of good painted glaſs in the windows.

The north chancel has belonged beyond memory to the poſſeſſors of Leeds-abbey. In it lie buried many of the Meredith family, whoſe monuments ſtill remain there; particularly a moſt ſuperb marble one, richly embelliſhed with arms, ſupporters, &c. for Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Palmer, widow of Sir William Meredith, bart. the firſt purchaſer of the Leeds-abbey eſtate. She afterwards married John, earl of Carbery, and died in 1643. The ſouth chancel was purchaſed by that family ſome years ago of the Wollett's; in a vault in it, among others, lies buried Sir Roger Meredith, bart. who has a handſome monument erected to his memory.

Robert de Crevequer, at the time of his founding the priory of Leeds, gave to the canons there the advowſons of all the churches of his eſtate, and among them the advowſons of the churches of Ledes and Bromfield, with fifty acres of land in this pariſh, which

gift was confirmed by ſeveral of his deſcendants, as they were by king Edward III. in his 41ſt year, by letters of *inſpeximus*.[u]

In the 8th year of king Richard II. the church of Leeds was valued at 13l. 6s. 8d. per annum, the whole profits of it being then in the poſſeſſion of this priory, the cure of it being ſupplied by the religious themſelves. In which ſituation it continued till the diſſolution of the priory, in the 31ſt year of Henry VIII. when it was, with all its poſſeſſions, ſurrendered into the king's hands, as has been already mentioned. The year after which, the king demiſed, among other premiſes, to Sir Anthony St. Leger, the rectory, with the chapel of Bromfelde, with their appurtenances, lately belonging to the priory there, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of twenty pounds.

But the fee of it remained in the crown, till queen Elizabeth, in her 3d year, having taken into her hands ſeveral manors, lands, &c. parcel of the revenue of the ſee of Canterbury, granted to archbiſhop Parker ſeveral rectories and parſonages in lieu of them; among which latter was this rectory or parſonage of Leeds, with its appurtenances, which has ever ſince continued parcel of the poſſeſſions of his ſucceſſors, archbiſhops of Canterbury.

Soon after the above-mentioned exchange, the archbiſhop demiſed this rectory, and the chapel of Bromfield, with all tithes, commodities, &c. excepting the advowſon of the church of Leeds, to Jerome, Millicent and Thomas Brett, for their lives, the latter of whom conveyed the leaſe of it to William Covert, eſq. to whom archbiſhop Whitgift, anno 33 Elizabeth, granted a leaſe of it for twenty-one years, at 20l. per annum, and the like exception, with a covenant for the tenant to repair all buildings, and the chancel of the church of Leeds and chapel of Bromfield. Since which

[u] Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 111, 112.

it

it has been held in leaſe of the ſeveral archbiſhops in like manner, the term renewable every ſeven years by the poſſeſſors of Leeds abbey, and as ſuch the intereſt of it is now veſted in John Calcraft, eſq. of Leeds-abbey.

The cure of the church of Leeds, before the ſurrendry of the priory, having been conſtantly ſerved by one of the religious of it, there was no vicarage endowed of it; after the diſſolution of the priory, therefore, it was eſteemed as a perpetual curacy, in the gift of the poſſeſſor of the rectory, and after that, was granted, with its appurtenances, by which this advowſon paſſed likewiſe, anno 3 Elizabeth, to the ſee of Canterbury. The archbiſhops conſtantly excepted the advowſon of the church of Leeds out of the ſeveral leaſes demiſed of it, and it ſtill continues in the gift of the archbiſhop, who collates a perpetual curate to the church of Leeds, with the chapel of Bromfield annexed.

The antient ſtipend or penſion to the curate of Leeds was, anno 3 Elizabeth 7l. 6s. 8d. and to the curate of Bromfield five pounds, which continued ſo till the reſtoration of king Charles II. when archbiſhop Juxon, in 1661, in conformity to the king's letters mandatory, augmented this curacy, by adding the ſum of thirty pounds per annum, to be paid by the leſſee of the great tithes of this pariſh, to the former old penſion above-mentioned of 12l. 6s. 8d.[w]

About the year 1765, Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Teſton, gave two hundred pounds towards the augmentation of this curacy, which was increaſed by the like ſum from the governors of queen Anne's bounty.

It is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of 44l. 14s. 4d.[x]

[w] Kennet's Improp. p. 258, [x] Bacon's Lib. Regis.

CHURCH OF LEEDS.

PATRONS, Or by whom presented.	CURATES OF LEEDS, With the chapel of BROMFIELD annexed.
Archbishops of Canterbury.	*William Cragge*, 1618.
	Jonathan Browne, 1621.
	Matthew Laurence, in 1622.
	John Blackburne, 1624.
	John Lockwood, 1625.
	Richard Marsh, March 25, 1633.
	William Frameis, September 29, 1641.
	Nathaniel Willmott, in 1643.
	Thomas Parramore, 1647.
	Thomas Chowning, 1659.
	Thomas Shovell, ejected in 1662.[y]
	John Moore, September 29, 1664.
	James Wilson, May 18, 1665.
	Edward Waterman, May 28, 1685.
	Edward Harrison, June 16, 1725, obt. 1760.
	Denny Martin Fairfax, D. D. Nov. 14, 1760, the present curate.[z]

y See Calamy's Life of Baxter, p. 286.

z See Leeds caſtle before.

BROMFIELD.

THE next pariſh ſouth-eaſtward from Leeds is Bromfield, called in Domeſday, *Brunfelle*, and probably took its name from the quantities of broom and heath, with which the greateſt part of this pariſh was then covered.

THE PARISH of Bromfield extends towards the north as far as Leeds-caſtle, part of which, as well as of the park, is within the bounds of it. The Lenham rivulet flows

flows through the northern part of it. Near the ſtream there is ſome tolerable fertile meadow ground. The church is ſituated on a riſe on the northern ſide of the pariſh, which is but of moderate extent from eaſt to weſt; above the church the lands are poor and heathy, where there is a warren, which has for a long time been the property of the owners of Leeds-caſtle, as it is now of the Rev. Dr. Fairfax. Towards the ſouth the pariſh extends further, near two miles, quite acroſs Kingſwood, (a large tract of wood, being three miles long and one broad) to Chartway ſtreet, near the ſummit of the quarry hills, the northern ſide of which ſtreet is in this pariſh, and oppoſite one in Eaſt Sutton, near which the ſoil partakes much of the quarry ſtone. There is no village, and but few habitations in the pariſh; towards the eaſtern part of it is the ſmall manor of Roſes; there is a fair held here on Whit-Monday yearly. Beſides which there is not any thing further in this pariſh worth notice.

THIS PLACE was part of thoſe poſſeſſions, given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday as follows:

The ſame Robert (Latinus) holds to ferme Brunfelle. Adelold held it of the biſhop. It was taxed at one ſuling. The arable land is . . . In demeſne there are two carucates, and five villeins, with ten borderers, having one carucate and an half. There is one mill of ſix ſhillings and eight pence, and paſture of fifteen ſhillings. There are twelve ſervants, and eight acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of twenty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth four pounds, now one hundred ſhillings. Aluuin held it of earl Goduin. To this manor there belonged certain free land for three oxen, and was worth five ſhillings.

After the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, and the confiſcation of his eſtates, about four years after the taking of the above ſurvey, this place, with the ad-

joining pariſh of Leeds, was granted by the Conqueror to the noble family of Crevequer, of whom it was held afterwards by a family, who took their ſurname from it; one of whom, William de Bromfeld, held it in the reign of Henry II. as one quarter of a knight's fee. In the reign of king Edward I. Henry de Hoo held this eſtate of the barony of Crevequer; after which, it ſeems to have been blended in the ſame viciſſitude of owners, that the manor of Leeds was, of which a more ample account may be found under the deſcription of that manor and caſtle, and as ſuch this manor is now in the poſſeſſion of the Rev. Dr. Denny Martin Fairfax, of Leeds-caſtle.

CHARITIES.

MRS. ELIZABETH CAYSER, of Hollingborne, widow, by will in 1612, left a ſum of money to buy a piece of land, which has been ſince purchaſed in that pariſh, and out of the rent of it, ſhe directed, that yearly on the anniverſary of her death, which happened on Sept. 22, 1615, five ſhillings ſhould be diſtributed among the pooreſt perſons of this pariſh, by the miniſter, churchwardens, and overſeers of it, for the time being.[a]

The poor conſtantly relieved are about nine, and caſually eighteen.

BROMFIELD is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Margaret, was given by Robert de Crevequer to the priory of Ledes, on his foundation of it, together with that of Ledes, and the advowſons of all the churches of the barony of Crevequer; which gift was confirmed from time to time by his deſcendants, and by Edward III. in his 41ſt year, by his letters of *inſpeximus*, and by ſeveral archbiſhops of Canterbury. After which, it appears to have been eſteemed as a chapel to the church of Leeds, and as ſuch to have been included in the

[a] See a further account of it under Hollingborne.

ſeveral

ſeveral valuations made of that church. In which ſtate it continued till the diſſolution of the priory of Leeds, in the 31ſt year of king Henry VIII. when it was, with all its poſſeſſions, ſurrendered up into the king's hands, ſince which, being eſteemed as a chapel to the church of Leeds, it has paſſed as ſuch, down to the preſent time, and under the like circumſtances, being now as a chapel to that church, held in leaſe by John Calcraft, eſq. of Leeds-abbey, as has been more fully related before, under the deſcription of Leeds church.

A liſt of the curates of this church has already been given under the deſcription of the church of Leeds.

BERSTED.

BERSTED lies the next pariſh north-weſtward from Leeds. It was antiently written *Bergeſtede*, and moſt probably took its name from its ſituation, *Berg*, in Saxon, ſignifying a hill, and *ſtede*, a place or village.

THE PARISH lies moſtly on what may be called high ground, a pleaſant, and the greateſt part of it a dry ſituation; the ſoil is in general a deep ſand, though towards the ſouth-weſt part it partakes of the quarry rock, and on the ſouth ſide of the Lenham river a black mooriſh ſoil of fertile meadow ground. This river parts it towards the ſouth from Oſham, another ſmaller ſtream, which riſes near Boxley, ſeparates it on the weſtern ſide from that pariſh and Maidſtone, leaving within the bounds of it a part of the hamlet of Maginford. Beſides the above, this pariſh is watered by two or three other ſmaller rivulets, which riſe northward, and run here into the Lenham river, the eaſternmoſt of them ſeparating it from Hollingborne and Leeds. The high road from Aſhford and Lenham towards Maidſtone, runs along the northern boundaries of it, paſſing over Berſted-green, the houſes round which

which form the pariſh village, near it ſtands the church; beſides this there are two other hamlets, called Ware and Roſeacre-ſtreets. In the ſouth-eaſt part of the pariſh is the ſeat of Milgate, pleaſantly ſituated and well-cloathed with trees, at the back of which the ground deſcends to the river, and at a ſmall diſtance that of Lower Milgate, ſo called from its lower ſituation ſtill nearer the river.

A fair uſed to be held here on Holy Croſs day, September 14, now by the alteration of the ſtyle, changed to Sept. 25, for pedlary, toys, &c.

The noble family of *Bertie* own this pariſh to have been their moſt antient habitation in this kingdom, for they are ſaid to have poſſeſſed lands in it near the parſonage, at Strutton-ſtreet, and elſewhere in this neighbourhood, as early as the reign of king Henry II. and among the Harleian MSS. there is a grant of arms, anno 2 Henry VI. to Bartie, of Bereſted, in Kent; they continued here in king Henry the VIIth.'s reign, as appears by an antient rental of that time, and there are ſtill lands, called Barty lands, in this pariſh and Thurnham; and from thoſe of this name ſettled here, in a direct line was deſcended the dukes of Ancaſter, now extinct, and from them the lady Willoughbye, of Ereſbye; the earls of Abingdon, and other diſtinguiſhed branches of this family claim their deſcent.

The manors of Leeds, Moathall, and Thurnham, extend over this pariſh, in which there is an eſtate belonging to the former of them, which has conſtantly paſſed through the ſame ſucceſſion of owners, from the family of Crevequer, who were proprietors of it in the reign of William the Conqueror, to the Rev. Dr. Denny Martin Fairfax, of Leeds-caſtle, who is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of it.

MILGATE is an eminent ſeat, ſituated in the ſouth-eaſt part of this pariſh, which was formerly eſteemed a manor, though it has long ſince loſt the reputation of ever having been one.

The

The family of Cologne antiently poſſeſſed this eſtate; one of whom, Robert de Cologne, died poſſeſſed of it in the 35th year of king Edward III. In proceſs of time, his deſcendants came to be called Coluney; one of whom, Thomas Coluney, as appears by an old ſurvey of Berſted, poſſeſſed it in the 14th year of Edward IV. Soon after which, that is, in the beginning of king Henry VII.'s reign, it was become the property of the family of Stonehouſe, whoſe antient ſeat was at Haſlewood, in Boughton Malherbe.

Robert Stonehouſe, eſq. was of Berſted, at the latter end of king Henry VIII.'s reign. His ſon, George Stonehouſe, eſq. was clerk of the green cloth to queen Elizabeth, and reſided at Weſt Peckham, where he died in 1575, whoſe eldeſt ſon William was created a baronet anno 4 Charles I. and Nicholas, the ſecond, was of Boxley, in this county. He bore for his arms, *Argent, on a feſs ſable, between three hawks volant, azure, a leopard's face, between two mullets, or.*[b] In the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth he alienated this ſeat to Thomas Fludd, eſq. afterwards knighted, who was ſon of John Fludd, eſq. of Morton, in Shropſhire, and bore for his arms, *Vert, a chevron between three wolves heads, eraſed, argent*; which coat, with his quarterings, was confirmed to him by Robert Cook, clarencieux, in 1572. He reſided at Milgate, where he died in 1607, and was buried in this church, having conſiderably improved and augmented this ſeat. His ſon Thomas Fludd, eſq. afterwards of Otham, ſucceeded him in this eſtate, which he alienated in 1624, to William Cage, of Farringdon, in Hampſhire, barriſter-at-law, who reſided here. He was bred at Lincoln's-inn, an utter barriſter, and was deſcended from Richard Cage, of Packenham, in Suffolk. He bore for his arms, *Per pale, gules and azure, a ſaltier, or, and a chief, ermine*, which was an altera-

[b] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Coll. Bar. vol. ii. p. 81.

tion

tion from the antient arms of this family, viz. *Azure and gules, over all a saltier, or*; and, together with an addition to the creſt, was granted to him by St. George, clarencieux, in 1624,[c] and in his deſcendants it continued down to Wm. Cage, eſq. who was likewiſe of Milgate, and was ſheriff in 1695, and repreſented the city of Rocheſter in ſeveral parliaments during queen Anne's reign. Of his ſons, William died *ſ. p.* Lewis will be mentioned hereafter; and John was of Lower Milgate, eſq. Lewis Cage, the ſecond ſon, became at length poſſeſſed of Milgate, where he reſided, and left one ſon Lewis, and a daughter Catherine, who married firſt, Mr. George Eaſtchurch, of Maidſtone; and ſecondly Chriſtopher Hull, eſq. but died *ſ. p.* On his death, Lewis Cage, eſq. his ſon, ſucceeded him in this ſeat, where he now reſides.

He married Annetta, ſecond daughter and coheir of Edward Coke, eſq. of the White Friars, in Canterbury, by whom he had four ſons; Lewis Cage, eſq. of Lower Milgate, who married Fanny, eldeſt daughter of Sir Brook Bridges, bart. the Rev. Edward Cage, rector of Eaſling, who married Jane, ſecond daughter of Charles Van, eſq. of Monmouthſhire; John, who died in the Weſt-Indies unmarried in 1789, and the Rev. Charles Cage, of Criſtmell, vicar of Berſted, who married Elizabeth, daughter of colonel Graham, and one daughter Catherine, as yet unmarried.

AT A SMALL DISTANCE weſtward from Milgate, there is a good houſe, called COMBES, alias LOWER MILGATE, which on the death of William Cage, eſq. came to his youngeſt ſon John Cage, as before-mentioned, who died *ſ. p.* It is now the property of Mrs. Brander, the widow of Guſtavus Brander, eſq. and daughter of Francis Gulſton, eſq. by a daughter of William Cage, eſq. Lewis Cage, eſq. junior, at preſent reſides in it.

[c] See Harl. MSS. No. 1470-24-96, and 1507-70.

MOAT-

MOAT-HALL is a manor in this parish, the mansion of which, from the materials with which it was built, was called *Stonehouse*. It antiently belonged to the neighbouring priory of Leeds, as appears by several old boundaries and papers, and was most probably part of those demesnes given to it at its first foundation, by Robert de Crevequer, in the reign of king Henry I. These demesnes appear by a rental of the time of king Henry VII. to have been held of the manor of Leeds, though they have been long since accounted parcel of this manor of Moat-hall.

On the dissolution of the priory in the reign of king Henry VIII. this manor, among the rest of the possessions of it, was surrendered into the king's hands, who afterwards, by his dotation-charter, in his 33d year, settled this manor, among other premises, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rochester, with whom it remains at this time.

The present lessee of it, under the dean and chapter, is Mr. William Usborne. There is a court baron held for this manor.

AT A SMALL DISTANCE southward from the church lies an estate called OTTERIDGE, formerly *Oteraſhe*, which in the reign of king Henry VIII. belonged to Simon Bertyn, one of the brethren of St. Bartholomew's hospital, beside Sandwich, who by will in 1530, devised it to Jeffry Merchant, of Rainham.

It afterwards came into the possession of the family of Munns, who continued possessors of it for several generations, till at length one of them sold it, with Aldington, in the adjoining parish of Thurnham, to William Sheldon, esq. whose descendant Richard Sheldon, esq. at his death, bequeathed it to his widow, and she re-marrying with William Jones, M. D. entitled him to it. He died in 1780, leaving by her two daughters; Mary, married to Lock Rollinson, esq. of Oxfordshire, and Anne, to Thomas Russell, esq. and they in right of their wives, are respectively entitled to it.

CHARITIES.

CHARITIES.

SIMON BERTYN, one of the brethren of St. Bartholomew's hoſpital, near Sandwich, owner of Otteridge, in this pariſh, which he deviſed, together with his meſſuage called Buds, with its lands and appurtenances, in Allyngton, beſide Thurnham, by his will in 1530, to Jeffry Marchant, ordered that the ſaid Jeffry and his heirs male, ſhould for ever yearly diſtribute, on the firſt Sunday of Lent, in the church of Berghſted, to the pariſh clerk there, and to other poor people, four buſhels of green peas; that is to ſay, to every one of them, one peck.

EDWARD GODFREY, gent. of Thurnham, gave by his will in 1709, thirty ſhillings yearly out of lands in this pariſh, called Crouch field, for the ſchooling of poor children; half of them to be of this pariſh, and half of that of Thurnham. And he left 30s. yearly for the ſame uſe, to be paid out of an houſe called Roſe acre, in this pariſh; the payment of which has been conſtantly refuſed, upon pretence, that he had no right to deviſe that charge on it.

The poor conſtantly relieved are about forty-five; caſually twenty five.

BERSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is ſituated on high ground, at a ſmall diſtance ſouthward of Berſted-green. It is dedicated to the Holy Croſs, and is a handſome building, conſiſting of two iſles and two chancels, with a ſquare beacon tower at the weſt end of it. On three corners of the ſummit of the tower, are the figures of *three dogs*, or *bears ſejant*, for they are ſo defaced by great length of time, that they can but be gueſſed at. If they repreſent the latter, they might have been placed there in alluſion to the name of this pariſh: if not, theſe figures might perhaps be the creſt of the founder of the church. In this church in the Milgate chancel, are monuments for the Cage family, and for Robert Fludd, M. D. A memorial for William Godfrey, jun. in 1690; and for Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Boſvile, eſq. of Bradburne, juſtice and clerk of the court of wards, married firſt to Edward Mabb, gent. of this pariſh;

pariſh; and ſecondly, to William Godfrey, of Berſted, yeoman, obt. 1614. In the porch, againſt the eaſt wall, is a ſmall monument for Stephen Maſon, of Boxley, citizen and vintner of London, obt. 1560, arms, *A chevron, between three tuns, or barrels.*

There were ſome lands and tenements in this pariſh, given by ſeveral perſons, who ſtiled themſelves *the fraternity of the Holy Croſs of Berſted*, for a prieſt to ſing maſs yearly for one quarter of a year, in this church.

The church of Berghestede, with all its rights and appurtenances, was given in the reign of Henry I. by Robert de Crevequer, ſon of Hamo de Crevequer, junior, to the priory of Leeds, then founded by him; which gift was confirmed by Baldwin, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the reign of Henry II. who then appropriated this church to the canons there, towards the finding of lights and ornaments in their church. Archbiſhops Theobald and Hubert confirmed it likewiſe, as did John, prior, and the convent of Chriſt-church, in 1278, by the deſcription of the church of Berghestede, with the tithes of Strutton. King Edward III. likewiſe confirmed it by his charter of *inſpeximus* in his 41ſt year.

This church, together with the advowſon of the vicarage, remained part of the poſſeſſions of the priory of Leeds till the diſſolution of it, in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered up into the king's hands, among other eſtates belonging to it.

After which, the king, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, ſettled both the parſonage and advowſon of the vicarage of this church on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom they now remain.

On the intended diſſolution of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. the poſſeſſions of the dean and chapter of Rocheſter, in this pariſh, were ſurveyed in 1649, by order of the ſtate; when it was returned, that the parſonage or rectory of Berſted conſiſted of a meſſuage, barns, &c. which, with the tithes

and

and glebe land of forty acres, were of the improved rent of 46l. 8s. per annum, which were let anno 13 Charles I. at the yearly rent of 9l. 13s. 4d. and four buſhels of malt, for the term of twenty one years; and the leſſee covenanted to diſcharge the penſion of forty ſhillings to the vicar, and to repair the chancel of the church. Out of which leaſe was excepted, the advowſon of the vicarage, and the portion of tithes called Vintners Portion.

The vicarage is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of thirty pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 12s. 9d.

In 1649, the vicarage was valued in the abovementioned ſurvey at twenty pounds per annum.

The parſonage is leaſed out by the dean and chapter to Mr. John Packman, but the advowſon of the vicarage they reſerve in their own hands.

The vicarage is endowed with all manner of tithes, except grain, and the vicar now enjoys the abovementioned penſion of forty ſhillings from the leſſee of the dean and chapter.

CHURCH OF BERSTED.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
	Richard Sheldon, S. T. P. in 1613.
	Henry Pawſon, A. M. April 22, 1614, reſigned 1616.
	Thomas Ingood, A. M. June 27, 1616, reſigned 1624.
	Richard Sheldon, S. T. P. Nov. 8, 1624.
	Francis Drayton, reſig. 1667.
	John Collins, A. M. March 10, 1667, obt. 1677.
	Thomas Gregory, A. B. Sept. 18, 1677, obt. 1685.
	Francis Smith, A. M. Sept. 22, 1685.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
	Thomas Woodhouſe, April 24, 1691, obt. 1693.
	Henry Dering, A. M. Dec. 16, 1693, obt. 1720.[d]
	Thomas Price, clerk, Dec. 21, 1720, obt. 1724.
	Samuel Hales, 1724, reſigned 1733.[e]
	Henry Rand, A. M. July 1733, obt. 1765.
	Samuel Markham, LL. B. December 12, 1765, reſigned 1767.
	Henry Jones, A. M. 1767, reſig. 1773.[f]
	Arnold Carter, A. M. preſented 1773 reſig. 1783.[g]
	Richard Jacobs, A. M. 1783, obt. Aug. 11, 1794.
	Charles Cage, A. M. preſented 1794, the preſent vicar.[h]

[d] He was alſo vicar of Thurnham, where he lies buried.

[e] He was preſented to Chart Sutton in 1733.

[f] A minor canon of Rocheſter.—And he exchanged this vicarage with Mr. Carter, for the vicarage of Chart Sutton.

[g] A minor canon of Rocheſter.—Before vicar of Chart Sutton. He reſigned this vicarage for W. Peckham.

[h] And vicar of Bredgar.

Maſter Freeman Sonds, ſecond ſon of Sir George Sonds, of Lees-court, having been executed at Pinenden-heath, on Auguſt 21, 1655, for the unhappy murder of his elder brother, was brought that day to Berſted church, and interred in it.

OTHAM.

THE next pariſh ſouthward from Berſted is Otham, which although it is ſituated within the hundred of Eyhorne, is yet within the civil juriſdiction of the mayor and corporation of the town and pariſh of Maidſtone. This juriſdiction, as the charter expreſſes it, extends

only to the cognizance and determination of actions and replevins, and to no other purpoſe whatſoever.

THIS PARISH is much covered with woods, eſpecially in the weſtern part of it. Towards the north it is bounded from Berſted by the Lenham rivulet, which here turns a mill, called Otham mill. The ſoil is in the ſouthern part of it poor, conſiſting of a looſe red earth, intermixed with ſmall gravelly ſtones; towards the north-weſt towards Willington-ſtreet and Maidſtone, it partakes of the quarry-ſtone, where it is much more fertile, and is kindly for fruit and hops, of which latter there are ſeveral plantations. In the northern part, the ſoil is fertile, conſiſting of a fine loam, the land letting from 20 to 30s. an acre, and near the rivers the meadows are very good. Near the middle of the pariſh is Gore-court, a low modernized building, almoſt ſurrounded by woods, and at no great diſtance northward the parſonage, a modern ſaſhed building, beyond which the church ſtands; at the back of Gore-court, about half a mile diſtance, in a more open country, is Otham-ſtreet, and beyond it the manor of Stoneacre.

OTHAM was given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday:

Goisfrid de Ros holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Oteham. It was taxed at one ſuling, and one yoke. The arable land is two carucates and an half. In demeſne there is one, and nine villeins, with three borderers, having one carucate There is a church, and two ſervants, and one mill of five ſhillings, and three acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of eight hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, it was worth four pounds, when he received it three pounds, now four pounds. Alwin held it of king Edward.

On the biſhop's diſgrace ſoon after the taking of the above-mentioned ſurvey, this, among the reſt of his eſtates, came into the hands of the crown, and appears

to

to have been held by a family, who took their name from hence.

Peter de Otham held this eſtate as one knight's fee, in the reign of king Henry III. as appears by the *Teſta de Nevil*, and it ſeems that he held it *in ſergeantry*; his daughter and heir Loretta carried it in marriage to William de Valoyns, whoſe family was poſſeſſed of large eſtates in the eaſtern parts of this county.

William de Valoigns is mentioned in the *Teſta de Nevil* to have paid aid for lands at Petham, Aſhford, and Otham, in the 20th year of king Henry III. and died poſſeſſed of Otham in the 10th year of Edward I. His wife Loretta ſurvived him, and poſſeſſed this eſtate, which ſhe afterwards gave to her two ſons, Walter and Robert de Valoigns, by the deſcription of the manor of Otham, with the advowſon of the church, and in the *iter* of J. de Berewick and his aſſociates, anno 21 Edward I. ſhe produced the deed of this gift, which is recorded in that *iter* at length.[1] They held it in the next reign of Edward II. as one knight's fee, of the honor of Albermarle; but in the 20th year of king Edward III. it was partly alienated from this family, for Iſabel, widow of Walter de Valoigns, Richard Colyn, and maſter Nicholas de Sandwich, then paid reſpective aid for it.

Nicholas de Sandwich appears to have died in poſſeſſion of this manor in 1370, anno 45 Edward III. being then rector of this pariſh. He lies buried in this church, being a younger ſon of the Sandwich's, of Sandwich, in this county, and bore for his arms, *Or, on a chief dancette, azure, a mullet, argent, for difference.* After which it paſſed into the family of Fremingham; and John, ſon of Sir Ralph de Fremingham, of Loſe, died in the 12th year of Henry IV. poſſeſſed, among other premiſes, of the manor and advowſon of the church of Otham, and leaving no iſſue,

[1] Plac. Jur. & Aſſiſs. See Harris's Hiſt of Kent, p. 231.

he deviſed this eſtate by will to feoffees, who next year, aſſigned it over according to the directions of it to John, ſon of Reginald de Pimpe, and his heirs male, with remainder to Roger Iſle, as being the neareſt of blood to him. His deſcendant Reginald died poſſeſſed of them in the 23d year of Henry VIII. After which this manor and the advowſon came into the poſſeſſion of Sir Henry Iſley, who ſoon afterwards conveyed them to Thomas Hendley, eſq. of Courſehorne, in Cranbrooke, whoſe anceſtor was Walter Hendley, eſq. of that place, who married firſt the daughter of John Hales, baron of the exchequer, by whoſe ſecond wife the Hendleys of Wales are deſcended. They bore for their arms, *Pale, bendy, azure and gules, eight martlets, three, two, and three, or.* His deſcendant, John Hendley, eſq. poſſeſſed them at the reſtoration of king Charles II. He married Priſcilla, daughter of Thomas Fludd, eſq. of Gore court, in this pariſh, by whom he had Bowyer Hendley, eſq. ſheriff in 1702, and his grandſon William Henley, eſq. of Gore-court, is now entitled to the fee of them.

GORE-COURT is a ſeat in this pariſh, which with lands here, called *Colyns*, alias *Old-hole*, (no doubt, called *Colyns*, from Richard Colyn, who was owner of Otham manor in the reign of Edward III. as before-mentioned, and perhaps now uſually known by the name of Otham-hole), was once eſteemed part of the manor of Otham, and ſeems to have had the ſame owners, till they came into the poſſeſſion of Sir Henry Iſley, in the reign of king Henry VIII. who alienated them to Thomas Aſtrey, and he, in the 3d year of king Edward VI. conveyed them by deed and fine to Walter Hendley, eſq. and Thomas Hendley, eſq. his ſon, the former of whom, the next year, releaſed the whole of it to the latter, and he, that year, ſold this eſtate to Ralph Buffkin, by deed and fine. He bore for his arms, *Or, a chevron, between three helmets, azure*, and in his deſcendants this eſtate remained till the reign of king

king James I. when it was alienated to Mr. Nathaniel Powel, of Ewehurſt, in Suſſex, who ſoon afterwards conveyed it to Thomas Fludd, eſq. deſcended from David Fludd, or de Fluctibus, of Salop, and bore for his arms, *Vert, a chevron, between three griffins heads eraſed, argent.* He reſided here, and by Catherine his wife, daughter of Lewin Buffkin, eſq. of this pariſh, left two ſons, Thomas, and Lewin, who was M. D. Thomas Fludd, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in this ſeat, and was ſheriff in 1652. He left two ſons, Alabaſter and Thomas, and a daughter Priſcilla, married to John Hendley, eſq. of this pariſh.

Alabaſter Fludd, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, was of Gore-court, whoſe great-grandſon, Peter Fludd, to ſatisfy incumbrances, conveyed it in truſt to Mr. Benjamin Howel, gent. who about the year 1712, paſſed it away by ſale to Bowyer Hendley, eſq. of this pariſh, ſheriff in 1702 as before-mentioned. He died poſſeſſed of it in 1742, leaving two ſons, William and Walter, and four daughters, of whom Anne, the youngeſt, married the Rev. Samuel Horne, rector of this pariſh.

William Henley, the eldeſt ſon, above-mentioned, altered the ſpelling of his name, leaving out the letter *d* in it. He reſided at Gore-court, where he died in 1757, and was buried with his anceſtors here, leaving one ſon William, and ſeveral daughters. William Henley, eſq. the ſon, afterwards reſided here, and married a foreign lady, Dorothy Hannah Louiſa Harriot, ſaid to be counteſs of Berghauſen, in Germany, naturalized by act in 1781. She died *ſ. p.* in 1793. A commiſſion of lunacy has been ſome years ſince taken out againſt Mr. Henley, the committee, in which is the Rev. Mr. Horne, his brother-in-law, who is now, as ſuch, in the poſſeſſion of the manor of Otham, Gore-court, and his other eſtates in this county.

STONEACRE is a manor in the eaſtern part of this pariſh, which for ſome centuries was the ſeat of the family of Elys, or Ellis, as they afterwards ſpelt their

name, a branch of which was likewiſe ſeated at Kennington, in the eaſtern part of this county. John Ellys poſſeſſed this ſeat, and reſided here in the reign of king Edward II. as appears by the deeds relating to it. His deſcendant John Elys, eſq. died in 1467, and lies buried in this church. He bore for his arms, *Or, on a croſs ſable, five creſcents argent*, as they were painted on glaſs in the window next his pew in the church, and in a window at Stoneacre. In whoſe deſcendants it continued till it was at length alienated by Mr. George Ellis, about the year 1710, to Mr. George Waterman, whoſe heirs, about the year 1735, conveyed it by ſale to William Horſemonden Turner, eſq. of Harrietſham, ſince which it has paſſed in like manner as Harrietſham already deſcribed before, together with his other eſtates in this county, down to William Baldwin, eſq. of Harrietſham-place, the preſent owner of it.

CHARITIES,

THOMAS HENDLEY, ESQ. youngeſt ſon of Gervas Hendley, eſq. of Courſehorne, gave a houſe and land, now let at 4l. per annum, to the poor of this pariſh, veſted in the miniſter and churchwardens. He died in 1590, and lies buried in the chancel of this church.

The poor conſtantly relieved here are about twelve, and caſually ſix.

OTHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, in it are monuments for the Hendleys, of this pariſh, and one for Lewin Buffkin, eſq. of Gore-court; and a memorial for John Elys, of Stoneacre. This church, from the earlieſt account of time, has ever been conſidered as an appendage to the manor of Otham, and as ſuch is now in the patronage of William Henley, eſq. of Gore-court.

It is valued in the king's books at 9l. 17s. 3½d. and the yearly tenths at 19s. 8¼d.

In

In 1578, the communicants here were ninety-two. In 1640, it was valued at forty-five pounds per annum. Communicants one hundred and twenty-one.

King Edward II. in his 19th year, confirmed to the rectory of Otham, four acres of land in this parish, for a chantry.

CHURCH OF OTHAM.

PATRONS, *Or by whom presented.*	RECTORS.
	Nicholas de Sandwich, obt. 1370.[k]
	Peter Hensle, May 7, 1567.
	John Brome, S. T. P. March 10, 1595, obt. 1625.
	William Hude, A. M. Nov. 18, 1625, obt. 1630.
	Thomas Wilson, B. A. 1630, suspended 1635, restored 1639, obt. 1651.[l]
	John Davis, obt. July 11, 1677.[m]
	Mathias Rutton, Nov. 6, 1677, obt. Aug. 12, 1701.[n]
	William Simmonds, A. M. Feb. 13, 1701, resig. 1727.[o]
	Samuel Horne, June 27, 1727, obt. Aug. 18, 1768.[p]
	William Horne, A. M. 1769, the present rector.

[k] He lies buried in this church.

[l] He was presented by Mr. George Swinnock, who had purchased the next presentation to it, and wrote his life. He was a zealous puritan, and was suspended by the high commission, for dilapidations of his parsonage, and other matters. He died about 1651. See Newton's History of Maidstone, p. 132.

[m] Newton's History of Maidstone, p. 68. He was also curate of Maidstone, where he lies buried.

[n] He lies buried in this church.

[o] He was likewise dean of Battle.

[p] He lies buried in this church, having had several children; one of whom, Dr. George Horne was president of Magdalen college, in Oxford, afterwards dean of Canterbury, and then bishop of Norwich, who died in 1792, and lies buried at Eltham; and another is the Rev. Wm. Horne, who succeeded him in this rectory, and is likewise rector of Brede, in Sussex.

THURNHAM

LIES the adjoining pariſh northward from Berſted. It is written in Domeſday, *Turneham*, and is ſuppoſed to take its name from the antient caſtle ſituated in it, *Thurn* in Saxon ſignifying a tower, and *ham* a village.

THE PARISH of Thurnham, though healthy, is yet from the nature of its ſoil an unpleaſant ſituation, and is rather an unfrequented place, of but little thoroughfare; the high ridge of chalk hills croſs it, cloſe to the foot of which is the church with the court-lodge and parſonage, and at a ſmall diſtance eaſtward Aldington court, having a double avenue of trees leading from it, almoſt to Berſted-green, to which this pariſh joins ſouthward, near which the ſoil partakes of the ſand; near the foot of the hills, the ſoil approaches the chalk, where the incloſures are large and open, having but few trees in the hedge-rows to ſhelter them, and the land poor and flinty; on the edge of the ſummit of the hill are the remains of *Thurnham caſtle*, an account of which will be given hereafter. From hence, on the hill northward, the country is wild and dreary, lying high, and much expoſed to the bleak northern aſpect; the ſoil here is very poor and wet, a heavy tillage land of a kind of red earth, covered with quantities of flints, moſtly low rented, at five ſhillings an acre, or rather leſs; the hedge rows here are broad, and the fields large. In the north-eaſt part is a large quantity of wood-land, called Binbury wood, near which the high road from Maidſtone through Detling leads on towards Stockbury valley and Key-ſtreet, through this part of Thurnham, on the weſt ſide of this road; juſt before you deſcend to the low country is Binbury manor pound, and at a field or two diſtance behind it, the houſe itſelf,

In

In the ſouth part of this pariſh, where it joins to Berſted, there is a vein of *white ſand*, which upon alderman Lewin and lady Mantle's laying the foundation for the improvement of the glaſs-works in this kingdom, and the ſending over Michael Racket, and other Italians, to carry on that manufacture, was found to be of the greateſt uſe in their compoſition for making glaſs, and is now well known among the glaſs-workers, by the name of *Maidſtone ſand*, and the pits themſelves are become noted, for their vaſt caverns arched underground.

THURNHAM was given by William the Conqueror to Odo, biſhop of Baieux, his half-brother, of whom it was held by Ralph de Curva Spina, or Crookthorne, as the name was called in Engliſh, as appears by the following entry in the book of Domeſday, under the general title of the biſhop's lands:

Ralf Curbeſpine holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Turneham. It was taxed at three ſulings. The arable land is eight carucates. In demeſne there is one, and ſixteen villeins, with eighteen borderers, having four carucates. There is a church, and ſix ſervants, and one mill of ſix ſhillings, and four acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of forty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth ten pounds, now twelve pounds, and yet it pays fourteen. Sbern Biga held it of king Edward.

On the diſgrace of the biſhop of Baieux, in the 19th year of the Conqueror's reign, this place was ſeized into the king's hands, among the reſt of his eſtates, and was afterwards granted to Gilbert Magminot; being held of the king *in capite* by barony, by the tenure of maintaining a certain number of ſoldiers, from time to time, for the defence of Dover caſtle. This manor and Binbury, in this pariſh, together with Kerſony, in River, parcel of the twenty-four knight's fees,[q] which

[q] See Deptford, and Cowdham, vol. i. of this hiſtory, p. 346. vol. ii. p. 60.

made

made up the barony of Magminot, of which Deptford was the head or chief.

Of the family of Magminot, and of their heirs the Says, Thurnham was held by a family which took their name from their poſſeſſions in it. Robert de Turnham held this eſtate in the reign of king Henry II. and was the founder of the priory of Combwell, in Goudhurſt, to which he gave part of his poſſeſſions in this pariſh. He left two ſons, Robert and Stephen; the former of whom attended king Richard I. in his noted expedition to the holy land, and he died in the 13th year of king John's reign, without iſſue male, and was ſucceeded by his brother Stephen de Turnham, who having ratified his father's grants to the priory of Combwell, died before the 16th year of that reign, as it ſhould ſeem *ſ. p.*

In the beginning of the reign of king Edward I, Sir Roger de Northwood, of Northwood, in the Iſle of Shepey, poſſeſſed the manor of Thurnham, with Binbury, and other eſtates in this pariſh, and died in the 13th year of that reign, in whoſe deſcendants, who had ſummons to parliament, among the barons of this realm, they continued down to Roger de Northwood, who on his father, Sir John de Northwood's death, anno 2 Richard II. ſucceeded to them.[r]

He alienated the manor of Thurnham to Robert Corbie, eſq. of Boughton Malherb, whoſe ſole daughter and heir Joane carried it in marriage to Sir Nicholas Wotton, who anno 3 Henry V. was lord-mayor. His deſcendant Sir Edward Wotton, procured his lands in this county to be *diſgavelled* by the acts both of 31 king Henry VIII. and 2 and 3 king Edward VI. and from him this manor deſcended to his grandſon Sir Edward Wotton, of Boughton Malherb, created lord Wotton, baron of Marley, whoſe

[r] See Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 662. vol. ii. p. 270. See more of this family under Northwood manor, in Milton, hereafter.

ſon

ſon Thomas, lord Wotton, dying in the 6th year of Charles I. without male iſſue, Catherine, his eldeſt daughter and coheir, carried this manor in marriage to Henry, lord Stanhope, ſon and heir to Philip, earl of Cheſterfield, who died in his father's life-time. Upon which, his widow Catherine, lady Stanhope, became again poſſeſſed of it, and quickly after transferred it by ſale to Mr. John Godden, of London, whoſe ſon William Godden, eſq. of Weſtwell, alienated it, in 1694, to William Cage, eſq. of Berſted, and his deſcendant John Cage, eſq. youngeſt ſon of William Cage, eſq. of Milgate, ſold this manor, together with the parſonage or rectory impropriate of Thurnham, to Sir Edward Dering, bart. who died poſſeſſed of them in 1762, and his ſon Sir Edward Dering, bart. of Surrenden, in this county, is the preſent owner of them, together with the *manors of Newnham*, alias the Rectory, and *Caſtle Godard*, in this pariſh. A court leet and court baron is held for the manor of Thurnham.

BINBURY, antiently written *Bingebery*, is an eminent manor in this pariſh, lying on the ſummit of the chalk-hills at the north-weſt extremity of it.

This manor is included in the deſcription in Domeſday recited before, as part of the biſhop of Baieux's poſſeſſions, and coming into the king's hands, was granted to Gilbert Magminot, to hold as before-mentioned *in capite*, by barony. After which it paſſed with the manor of Thurnham, to the family of that name, and afterwards to the Northwoods; during the time of its continuance in which family, in king Edward the IIId.'s reign, a melancholy accident happened at Binbury as appeared by the old evidences of the lord Wotton's family: the lady Northwood ſtanding on a precipice of the hill, to ſee a fox dug out, the earth, being looſe and ſandy, ſunk under her, and the hanging hill ſhooting down upon her, ſhe was ſtifled to death with the preſſure, before any aſſiſtance could

could be given to her. In this name of Northwood this manor continued down to Roger de Northwood, who died poſſeſſed of it in the laſt year of Henry V. His heirs, in the beginning of the next reign, paſſed it away to Thomas Thwaits, who in the 8th year of it, conveyed his intereſt in it to William Gaſcoigne, of the family of Gaſcoigne, of Gawthorpe, in Yorkſhire, who bore for their arms, *Argent, on a pale ſable, a demi lucy, or,* in whoſe name it continued till the beginning of king Edward IV.'s reign, and then it was alienated to Cutt, or Cutts, for the name was ſpelt both ways, whoſe deſcendant Sir John Cutt, poſſeſſed this manor in the reign of king Henry VIII. He was treaſurer of the houſhold, and reſided at Horeham hall, at Thaxſted, in Eſſex, which houſe he had built. He had a younger brother Richard, from whom deſcended John Cutt, created in 1690 lord Cutt, of Gowran, in Ireland, and died *ſ. p.* They bore for their arms, *Argent, on a bend ingrailed, ſable, three plates, in each a martlet of the ſecond*; thoſe of this county bore this coat *within a bordure, argent, and gules.*[1] He died in 1520. Sir Henry Cutt, his grandſon, was of Cambridgeſhire, and died in 1603 *ſ. p.* very ſoon after which, his heirs alienated this manor to Sir Samuel Lennard, of Weſt Wickham, in this county, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1618, and was ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſon, Sir Stephen Lennard, created a baronet in 1642 After which this manor paſſed in his deſcendants in like manner as that of Weſt Wickham deſcribed in the ſecond volume of this hiſtory, down to Miſs Mary Lennard, who marrying John Farnaby, eſq. he became in her right poſſeſſed of it. They joined in the ſale of it in 1785, to authorize which an act paſſed that year, to James Whatman, eſq. of Boxley, who exchanged it for other lands elſewhere, with Heneage, earl of Aylesford, and he is the preſent owner of it.

[1] See Morant's Eſſex, vol. ii. p. 590.

ALDINGTON,

ALDINGTON, uſually called Addington, and now comprehended within the bounds of this pariſh, was formerly *a diſtinct pariſh* of itſelf. It was, as well as Thurnham, part of thoſe poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday, taken about the year 1080:

Anſgotus of Rocheſter holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Audintone. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is three carucates and an half. In demeſne there are two, and ſeven villeins, with five borderers having one carucate and an half. There is a church and four ſervants, and ſix acres of meadow, and one mill of four ſhillings and two pence. Wood for the pannage of ten hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth four pounds, now ſeven pounds. Goduin and Aluuin held it of king Edward for two manors.

Theſe *two manors* continued afterwards as ſuch, ONE OF WHICH, from its ſituation, and from the noble family which poſſeſſed it, was called ALDINGTON COBHAM, alias EAST-COURT.

Henry de Cobham, of Cobham, was poſſeſſed of this manor in the reign of king John, and his eldeſt ſon John de Cobham, of Cobham likewiſe, died in the 28th year of king Edward I. poſſeſſed of it, holding it *in capite* by the ſervice of one knight's fee. He ſeems to have been ſucceeded in it by his next brother William, uſually afterwards ſtiled of Aldington, who was a juſtice itinerant, both in the reigns of king Henry III. and Edward I. and died, far advanced in years, anno 14 Edward II. *ſ. p.* being ſucceeded in this manor by Reginald his nephew, ſtiled likewiſe Cobham, of Aldington, ſon of his eldeſt brother John de Cobham, by his ſecond wife. His ſon, Reginald de Cobham, in the 14th year of Edward III. procured a charter of free-warren in all the demeſne lands within

within his manor of Aldington by Thornham, among others. He died in the 35th year of that reign, poſſeſſed of this manor, held of the king *in capite*, as of the caſtle of Rocheſter, then in the king's hands, by the ſervice of paying to the ward of that caſtle, in lieu of all ſervice. In whoſe deſcendants, of the name of Reginald, ſeated at Sterborough-caſtle, in Surry, whence his deſcendants were called Cobhams, of Sterborough, it continued down to Reginald de Cobham, who dying in the 24th year of Henry VI. was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſurviving ſon, Sir Thomas Cobham,[t] whoſe only daughter and heir Anne, carried it in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, of Gainſborough, in Lincolnſhire. His deſcendant, William, lord Borough, in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth, ſold this manor of Aldington Eaſt-court, to Henry Brockhull, who was likewiſe poſſeſſed of the other part of Aldington, called from its ſituation, and the family which poſſeſſed it ALDINGTON SEPTVANS, alias WEST-COURT. Of this family of Septvans, was Roger de Septvans, who poſſeſſed this manor in the reign of Richard I. and was with that king at the ſiege of Acon, in Paleſtine, and it remained in his deſcendants down to William Septvans, who died in the 25th year of Edward III. holding this eſtate, then called Weſt-court, alias Septvans, as the moiety of the manor of Aldington, in manner as above-mentioned. After which it did not remain long in this name, for John Gower died poſſeſſed of it in the 39th year of that reign; and from thence, not many years afterwards, it was alienated to Sir John Brockhull, in whoſe deſcendants reſident here it continued down to Henry Brockhill, eſq. of Aldington, who in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth, purchaſed of William, lord Burgh, the other moiety of Aldington, by the name

[t] See more of the Cobhams of Sterborough, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 211.

of

of the manor of Aldington East-court, as has been already related. He died in 1596, and was buried in Berſted church, and bore for his arms, *Gules, a croſs engrailed between twelve croſs-croſlets fitchee argent; quartered with thoſe of Criol.* He left two daughters his coheirs, Anne and Martha, the former of whom, by the death of her ſiſter, became at length his ſole heir, and marrying Mr. John Taylor, gent. entitled him to theſe eſtates, on which he afterwards reſided, being the grandſon of William Taylor, of Shadoxhurſt, he alienated them to Sir Richard Smith, of Leeds-caſtle, who died in 1628, and his heirs ſoon afterwards alienated them to Ralph Freke, eſq. deſcended from thoſe of Dorſetſhire, who having married Cecilie, fifth daughter of Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Hollingborne, fixed his reſidence at Aldington Weſt-court. She died in 1650, after which he ſold them to Mr. John Munns, of Berſted, in which name they remained till they were conveyed by ſale to William Sheldon, eſq. His grandſon Richard Sheldon, eſq. reſided at Aldington, where he kept his ſhrievalty in 1717, bearing for his arms, *Sable, a feſs between three ſheldrakes, argent*, and dying in 1736, was buried in Thurnham church, having by his will given theſe manors to his widow, who in 1738, remarrying with William Jones, eſq. M. D. entitled him to this ſeat, and the manors of Aldington Cobham and Weſt-court, at the latter of which he reſided. He died in 1780, leaving two daughters his coheirs, Mary, married to Lock Rollinton, eſq. of Oxfordſhire, and Anne, to Thomas Ruſſell, eſq. who, in right of their wives, became reſpectively entitled to theſe manors, which they afterwards joined in the ſale of to the hon. Rev. Jacob Marſham, LL. D. ſecond ſurviving ſon of the late lord Romney, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of them and reſides at Aldington-court.

THE CHURCH of Aldington was dedicated to St. Peter, and continued a ſeparate pariſh church from that

that of Thurnham,[u] till it was united to it by agreement made in 1583, between Henry Brockhull, eſq. lord of the manor and patron of it, and William Merrick, vicar of Thurnham, which was confirmed *ſede vacante* by maſter William Aubrey, L. D. guardian of the ſee of Canterbury, and ordinary *pro tempore*. Since which it has been accounted as a chapel to that church. In this church was buried Nicholas Brockhull, eſq. lord of Aldington Weſtcourt, anno 2 Edward IV.

ON THE VERY BROW of the chalk hill, are the remains of an antient fortification, now called THURNHAM CASTLE, but formerly *Godard's-caſtle*, and the hill on which it ſtands, from thence, *Godard's-hill*.

Darell, in his treatiſe *De Caſtellis Cantii*, affirms, that this caſtle was founded by Godardus, a Saxon, from whom it took its name. Leland calls it *the caſtle of Thorne*, and ſays, it was in his time entirely a ruin. He ſays, "Sir John Cutte, under treaſurer of England, bought of one Savelle, a main of fair lands in Yorkſhire, then being in trouble, the lordſhip of Godhurſte, with the ruins of a caſtle, (meaning this of Thurnham) ſtanding about two miles from the banks of the Medway, and the like diſtance from Maidſtone.

"This lordſhip at that time was partly a ground much overgrown with thornes and buſhes, and was worth but xx markes by the year, then it was cleared, and the value much enhanſed, and much goodly wood was then about it."

Sir John Cutte was then lord of the adjoining manor of Binbury, as has been already mentioned; but the ſcite of the caſtle has been long ſince alienated from the poſſeſſors of that manor.

[u] William Pope, vicar of the church of Aldington in 1464, was buried in the church-yard, cloſe to the ſouth-weſt corner of the ſteeple. Wills, Prerog. off. Cant.

The

The ſcite of Thurnham-caſtle is on the brow of the great chalk-hill, about half a mile northward of the church, and as much eaſtward from the high road on the top of Detling-hill. The walls which remain are built of rude flint, honey-combed and almoſt eaten up by the weather and length of time. That part which is now ſtanding of them is on the north ſide of the area of the caſtle: they are about fourteen feet high, and near three broad. The reſt of the walls are demoliſhed to the foundations, which are, notwithſtanding, moſtly viſible. The area contains about a quarter of an acre of ground. On the eaſt ſide of it was the keep, being an artificial mount, in the middle of which there is an hollow, as if the ground had fallen in and filled a cavity underneath. It appears to have been walled round, eſpecially towards the ſouth, where the chalk below having been dug away perpendicularly up to the bottom of the foundations, they have moſt part of them tumbled down into the chalk-pit underneath, where large fragments of them lie. The entrance ſeems to have been from the north.

It is very probable, from the Roman urns, and other remains of that nation, found about this hill, that it was firſt erected by them, and was poſſibly one of their *ſpeculatory ſtations* or *watch-towers*, as well to ſecure this paſs, as to overlook the approaches of their enemies through the valley below.

CHARITIES.

FOUR HOUSES, known by the name of *Church-houſes*, now let to the overſeers of the poor for 40s. per annum, and four acres of land, called Church-lands, let at three guineas per annum, were given to the poor of this pariſh by perſons now unknown.

EDWARD GODFREY, of this pariſh, gent. gave by will in 1709, twenty ſhillings yearly, out of lands in Berſted, called Crouch-field, to be diſtributed yearly among the poor of this pariſh not receiving alms, veſted in Mr. Watts, of Graveſend, and the vicar of this pariſh. He *likewiſe* gave by his will 30s. yearly out of the ſame lands, for the ſchooling of poor children; half of them to be of this pariſh, and half of that of Berſted. And *he left* 30s. more by his will for the like uſe, to

be paid out of an houſe called Roſeacre, in Berſted; the payment of which has been conſtantly refuſed, on pretence that he had no right to deviſe ſuch charge on it.

MRS. MARY DERING, daughter of Henry Dering, vicar of this pariſh, by her will in 1725, gave to the poor of this pariſh twenty-ſix penny loaves, to be diſtributed yearly on Chriſtmas-day for ever; and for that purpoſe, ſhe depoſited 10l. in the miniſter's and churchwarden's hands, to be put out to uſe, which was accordingly done, but the money is now loſt by the perſons being in indigent circumſtances.

The poor conſtantly relieved are about forty-two; caſually, about eighteen.

THURNHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a ſmall building, conſiſting of one iſle and two chancels, having a low pointed ſteeple at the weſt end, in which hang three bells. In it are monuments for the Sheldons, ſeveral of whom lie buried here, as does Sir Henry Cutt, in the chancel founded in honor of him by lady Barbara his wife, who afterwards married William Covert, eſq. of Boxley, and dying in 1618, was buried here likewiſe.

This church, with its appurtenances and lands, called Hoch and Caſteye, were given, among other premiſes in the reign of king Henry II. by Robert de Thurnham to the priory of Combwell, at Goudhurſt, at that time founded by him; which gift was confirmed by his ſon, Stephen de Thurnham, and by king Henry III. by his charter of *inſpeximus* in his 11th year.

The church of Thurnham was, within a few years afterwards, appropriated to the above-mentioned priory, with the conſent of Richard, archbiſhop of Canterbury, who likewiſe granted a confirmation of it to them. To the rectory belonged a manor, called NEWENHAM, alias THE RECTORY OF THURNHAM, which, with its appurtenances, conſiſting of certain premiſes and lands, called Howe-court and Canons-

Canons-barns, part of the gift of Robert de Thurnham, as before-mentioned, remained in the poſſeſſion of the priory till the 27th year of king Henry VIII. when by the act for the ſuppreſſion of all ſuch religious houſes, whoſe revenues did not amount to the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds, and for giving the ſame to the king; this priory was next year ſurrendered up into the king's hands. Theſe premiſes in the pariſh of Thurnham remained but a ſmall time in the crown, for the king in his 29th year granted them to Thomas Culpeper, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice, but he did not poſſeſs them long, for it appears by the eſcheat-rolls, that they were again in the crown in the 34th year of that reign, for that year the king granted the rectory of Thurnham, with its appurtenances, among other premiſes, to Sir John Gage, comptroller of his houſhold, to hold in like manner,[w] and he alienated it to Sir Edward Wotton, who died in the 6th year of Edward VI. poſſeſſed of the manor and rectory of How-court and Canons-barns, and the advowſon of the vicarage of Thurnham. From him they deſcended down in like manner as the manor of Thurnham above-deſcribed, till they came with it into the poſſeſſion of John Cage, eſq. of Combe, who ſold *the parſonage* or *rectory impropriate*, with the manor and lands belonging to it, and all its appurtenances, to Sir Edward Dering, bart. whoſe ſon of the ſame name is now poſſeſſed of it, as has been already mentioned before, but *the advowſon of the vicarage*, with the rectory of Aldington annexed, was ſold by him in 1740 to Mr. Joſeph Smallwell, of Maidſtone, who in 1753 conveyed it to Mr. Henry Hodſon, whoſe ſon the Rev. Henry Hodſon, vicar of this pariſh, is now entitled to it.

[w] Rot. Eſch. ejus an. pt. 3. Ibid. anno 38 Hen. VIII. pt. 13. See Combwell in Goudhurſt.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. the church of Thurnham with Aldington was valued at 33l. 6s. 8d. In 1640 it was valued at forty pounds per annum. Communicants one hundred and fifty-seven. This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 8l. 0s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 16s. 1d.

The vicarage of Thurnham, with the church of Aldington annexed to it, is endowed with all kind of vicarial tithe in the former, and all manner of tithes in the latter.

CHURCH OF THURNHAM, with the CHURCH OF ALDINGTON annexed.

PATRONS, *Or by whom presented.*	VICARS.
Priory of Combwell.	*Thomas Reynolds*, S. T. B. July 25, 1597, obt. 1600.
	Benjamin Carrier, S. T. B. March 27, 1600, resigned 1613.
	John Crompe, A. M. July 8, 1614, obt. 1641.[x]
	William Sutton, Nov. 6, 1661, obt. Nov. 28, 1673.[y]
	Henry Dering, A. M. 1673, ob. Dec. 26, 1720.[z]
	Jonathan Swan, 1720, obt. Jan. 14, 1768.[a]
	Henry Hodson, A. M. presented Feb. 10, 1768, the present vicar.[b]

x He was of C. C. C. college, Cambridge, and wrote several religious tracts.

y He lies buried in this church.

z Ibid.

a And master of the king's school, in Rochester. He was likewise vicar of Woodnesborough.

b He is also rector of Sandhurst by dispensation, dated 1768.

HAVING NOW DESCRIBED *the southern part of this hundred*, lying below the chalk hills, I shall proceed to the remaining part of it, lying above or on the *northern* side of them, beginning with *the parish of Otterden*, which lies almost on the summit of them.

OTTERDEN

OTTERDEN

LIES the next parish northward from Lenham, being written in the survey of Domesday, *Otringedene*, in antient deeds, *Otteringden*, and in later ones *Ottringden*, alias *Otterden*.

That part of this parish lying north-westward of the valley, which is between the church and Hall-place, which includes Otterden-place, that church, and the scite of the dilapidated church of Monketon, is in *the division of West Kent*; and the remaining or south-east part of it, including Hall-place, the scite of the dilapidated church of Boardfield, and the whole hamlet of it, is in *that of East Kent*.

THE PARISH of Otterden lies a little more than a mile from the summit of the chalk hills, and being greatly exposed to the north-east, is very bleak and cold. The hills in it are very frequent and steep; the land is in general very poor and barren, consisting of a loose red earth, mixed with such quantities of flints, that in the bottom of the valleys they entirely cover the surface of the ground, notwithstanding which, the most corn grows where they are thus numerous. The parish, especially in the north-east part, is greatly interspersed with coppice wood, which mostly consists of beech, intermixed at places with hazel and birch, and some few ash and willow stubbs. The roads are very narrow, and from the frequency and steepness of the hills, and the quantities of loose flints in them, are very unpleasant and unsafe to travellers.

Nearly in the middle of the parish is Otterden-place, situated on an eminence, having a most extensive prospect towards the north-east, over the neighbouring country, and the channel beyond it. It is a very large pile of building, the more antient part of

it being ſeemingly of king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign, though ſome of it has been lately taken down purpoſely to leſſen the ſize of it; at not more than one hundred yards diſtance from it is the new church of Otterden, which, from its form, and having no ſteeple, looks more like ſome apartment belonging to the manſion than what it really is; about half a mile weſtward is the parſonage, a modern brick building.

It has a ſmall village of a very few houſes, called Otterden-ſtreet, the cottages in general ſtanding ſingle and diſperſed over different parts of it, and are very meanly built; in ſhort, poverty and health may be truly ſaid to be the characteriſtic of theſe parts, as well as of thoſe others, throughout this county, which lie on the northern ſide of this range of hills, near the ſummit of them, but extending in breadth only a few miles, in ſome more, in others leſs; to which diſtrict the whole of the above deſcription may be ſaid to be well adapted, almoſt in every particular.

THIS PLACE was part of the poſſeſſions given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus entered in the ſurvey of Domeſday:

The ſame Adam, ſon of Hubert, holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Otringedene. It was taxed at half a ſuling. The arable land is two carucates. In demeſne there is one, and two villeins, with four borderers, having half a carucate. There are two ſervants, and one acre of meadow. Wood for the pannage of five hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, and afterwards, it was worth ten ſhillings, now thirty ſhillings. To this manor belong two plats of ground in Canterbury, of twelve pence. Aluuard held this manor of king Edward.

About four years after the above ſurvey, on the biſhop's diſgrace, all his eſtates were ſeized on by his brother, and this among them became confiſcated to the crown,

This

This manor afterwards came into the poſſeſſion of a family which took their name from it. Ralph de Ottringden held it of William de Leyborne, as one knight's fee, in the reign of Henry III. His grandſon Sir Laurence de Ottringden, died poſſeſſed of it in the beginning of king Edward II.'s reign, leaving an only daughter and heir, who carried this manor in marriage to Peyforer, from which name it paſſed into that of Potyn; one of which, Nicholas Potyn, was poſſeſſed of it in the reign of Richard II. and left an only daughter Juliana, who carried it in marriage to Thomas St. Leger,[c] ſecond ſon of Ralph St. Leger, of Ulcomb, knight of the ſhire anno 51 Edward III. He afterwards reſided at Otterden, where he kept his ſhrievalty anno 20 Richard II. and dying in the 10th year of Henry IV. was buried under a tomb erected for him in this church, near the high altar. His arms being, *Fretty, on a chief, two mullets, impaling ſemee of fleurs de lis*, were on his tomb; which laſt are ſaid in the Aucher pedigree, to be thoſe of Juliana Potyn his wife; but it muſt be here remarked, the ſimilarity of this coat to that of Peyforer, which was, *Six fleurs de lis*, whoſe daughter and heir Philipott ſays ſhe was.

He left one daughter and heir Joane, and his widow Juliana, ſurviving, who died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 5th year of Henry V. on which, Joan their daughter, then the wife of Henry Aucher, eſq. of Loſenham, in Newenden, entitled her huſband to the poſſeſſion of it. He was ſon of Henry, the eldeſt ſon of Nicholas Aucher, of Loſenham, and married firſt Iſabella At-Towne, of Throwleigh, by whom he had two ſons, Thomas, of Loſenham, and Robert, anceſtor to the Auchers of Weſtwell. His ſecond wife was Joan, daughter and heir of Thomas St. Leger, as above-mentioned, by whom he had an only ſon Henry, who ſucceeded to this manor of Otterden,

[c] MSS. atteſted pedigree of Aucher and St. Leger.

and reſided here. This branch of the family of Aucher bore for their arms four coats quarterly; firſt, *Aucher, ermine, on a chief, azure, three lions rampant, or*; ſecond, *St. Leger, fretty, azure and argent, on a chief, or, two mullets, gules*; third, *Potyn*, or *Petevin, argent, ſemee of fleurs de lis, azure*; fourth, *Ottringden, ermine, a croſs voided, gules*. He died in 1502, and was buried in the north chapel of this church. His ſon, James Aucher, died in 1508, and lies buried at his father's feet. On his grave-ſtone was his effigies in braſs, and at the upper corner of the ſtone, two ſhields of arms, one of the coat of Aucher; the other two coats, *per feſs*, the upper one, *Otterden*; the lower one, *St. Leger*; at the lower part of the ſtone, in the centre, was *the firſt* of thoſe ſhields *impaling the ſecond*. His eldeſt ſon, Sir Anthony Aucher, married Affra, daughter of William Cornwallis, by whom he left three ſons, John, who was of Otterden, Edward, who was of Biſhopſbourne, whoſe deſcendants were baronets, and remained there till within theſe few years, and William, who was afterwards of Nonington.

John Aucher, eſq. of Otterden-place, the eldeſt ſon, left an only daughter and heir Joan, who in the reign of queen Elizabeth marrying with Sir Humphry Gilbert, entitled him to this manor and ſeat. He bore for his arms, *Argent, on a chevron, ſable, three roſes of the ſecond, pierced, or*. He paſſed them away in that reign to William Lewin, LL. D. deſcended from John Lewin, gent. of Hertfordſhire. They bore for their arms, *Lewin, party per pale, gules and azure, three ſtags heads, couped, or*.[d] He afterwards reſided here, and dying in 1598, was buried in the church of St. Leonard Shoreditch. He was a maſter in chancery, judge of the Prerogative-court of Canterbury, chancellor of Rocheſter, commiſſary of the faculties, and dean of the peculiars, &c. He deſigned in his

[d] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree Lewin.

life-

life-time to have been buried in Otterden church, and there is a ſuperb monument erected in the north chancel of this church, *a cenotaph*, to his memory.

Sir Juſtinian Lewin, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded him in this manor, and reſided here, where he died in 1620, and was buried in this church, where there is a coſtly monument erected to his memory. He left an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, who carried this eſtate in marriage to Richard Rogers, eſq. of Brianſton, in Somerſetſhire, who dying likewiſe without male iſſue, his daughter Elizabeth carried it in marriage, firſt to Charles Cavendiſh, lord Mansfield, eldeſt ſon and heir of William Cavendiſh, duke of Newcaſtle, who died *ſ. p.* by her; and ſecondly, to Charles Stuart, duke of Richmond and Lenox,[e] who by fine and recovery in 1661, ſold this manor and ſeat to George Curteis, eſq. afterwards knighted.

Sir Geo. Curteis reſided at Otterden-place, where he died in 1702, and was buried in the north chancel of this church, bearing for his arms, *Argent, a chevron between three bulls heads, caboſhed, ſable.* He left one ſon and heir George Curteis, eſq. who ſucceeded his father in this eſtate, and died in 1710, leaving an only daughter Anne, who carried it in marriage to Thomas Wheler, eſq. eldeſt ſon of Sir George Wheler, D. D. prebendary of the church of Durham, the ſon of colonel Charles Wheler, of Charing, the ſon of Thomas Wheler, eſq. of Tottenham, in Middleſex, by Anne, daughter of Sir Nicholas Gilbourne, of Charing. Sir George Wheler had been a great traveller into ſeveral parts of Aſia, of which he publiſhed an account, as well as ſeveral other learned treatiſes. He was a good benefactor to Wye ſchool, under which a further account may be ſeen of him. They bore for their arms, *Vert, on a feſs, or, three lions rampant of the firſt.* Mr. Wheler died in 1716, *ſ. p.* and ſhe ſurviving him,

[e] See more of the Stuarts, dukes of Richmond, under Cobham, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 417.

carried

carried this eſtate again, within a few months afterwards, in marriage to Humphry Walcot, eſq. of Worceſterſhire, who in 1725, in which ſhe joined, paſſed it away by ſale to Granville Wheler, eſq. her firſt huſband's next ſurviving brother, who afterwards reſided at Otterden-place. He afterwards took holy orders, and became prebendary of Southwell, and rector of Lake, in Nottinghamſhire. He was a gentleman who made early diſcoveries in the ſcience of electricity, and was in other points of natural philoſophy an ingenious and learned member of the Royal Society. Among other private, as well as public benefactions, he made an addition to that of his father, to Wye ſchool, and was a good benefactor himſelf to this pariſh. He died at Otterden place in 1770, and was buried in the vault under the new church, which he had rebuilt, having been twice married; firſt, to Catherine, daughter of Theophilus Haſtings, earl of Huntingdon, and ſecondly, to Mary, daughter of John Dove, eſq. by whom he had no iſſue, but by his former lady he had two ſons and four daughters. Theophilus, the eldeſt ſon, died unmarried. Granville, the ſecond, became his father's heir. Elizabeth-Anne, the eldeſt daughter, married Thomas Medhurſt, eſq. of Kippax, in Yorkſhire; Frances died unmarried; Selina-Margaretta married the Rev. Mr. Wills; and Catherine-Maria married the Rev. Mr. Stewart Monteith, of Barrowby, in Lincolnſhire. Granville Wheler, eſq. the only ſurviving ſon, ſucceeded to this manor, with the ſeat of Otterden-place, where he for ſome time reſided, but going abroad, he died at Dunkirk, in Flanders, in 1786, and being brought to England was buried in this church, leaving Sybilla-Chriſtiana, his wife, ſecond daughter of Robert Haſwell, eſq. of London, ſurviving, and by her, one ſon, Granville Haſtings, an infant. She married ſecondly, the Rev. John Tatterſall, chaplain in ordinary to his majeſty, and he, with his wife, as teſtamentary

tamentary guardians of her ſon before-mentioned, are as ſuch at preſent in the poſſeſſion of this manor and eſtate.

BOARDFIELD, alias BORESFIELD, is a hamlet in the ſouthern part of this pariſh, and eſteemed to lie within the limits of *the hundred of Faverſham.* It was once a pariſh of itſelf, having a church of its own. The manor of it was for many deſcents the property of that branch of the family of Cobham, which from their poſſeſſion of Sterborough-caſtle, in Surry, were uſually ſtiled of that place.

Reginald, ſon of John de Cobham, of Cobham, in this county, by his ſecond wife, poſſeſſed this manor in the reigns of king Edward II. and III. in whoſe deſcendants of the ſame name it continued down to Reginald de Cobham, who died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 24th year of Henry VI. being ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſurviving ſon Sir Thomas Cobham, who died in the 11th year of Edward IV. leaving an only daughter and ſole heir Anne, who carried it in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, of Gainſborough, in Lincolnſhire,[f] whoſe deſcendant, William, lord Burgh, in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to John Pakenham, who paſſed it away by ſale within a few years afterwards to William Lewin, LL. D. after which this eſtate paſſed, in like manner as Otterden manor and place, in the ſame chain of ownerſhip, down to Granville Wheler, eſq. whoſe only ſon Granville Haſtings Wheler, now an infant, is intitled to the inheritance of it, but it is now in like manner in the poſſeſſion of his mother, and her ſecond huſband, the Rev. John Tatterſal, as his teſtamentary guardians.

The *church of Burdefield* was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the *nunnery of Davington* near Faverſham.

[f] See Chidingſtone, vol. iii. of this hiſtory, p. 213.

After

After the diſſolution of that nunnery, and before many years had elapſed, this church moſt probably fell to ruin, for even when Philipott wrote his Villare, in the reign of king Charles I. there was hardly one ſtone of it left upon another; however, the bounds of the church-yard are yet viſible, which lies at the corner of a field, and being converted into tillage, the plough in its progreſs over it frequently turns up large ſtones, part of this antient dilapidated church. The land which ſurrounds the ſpot where the church ſtood, belongs to a farm called Waterditch, which belongs to the ſame owners as now poſſeſs the manor of Weſt-Shelve, in Lenham.

It was formerly a rectory of itſelf, but is now eſteemed as *a chapel* united to the pariſh church of Otterden, the patronage of which was in poſſeſſion of the family of Lewin, and paſſed from them, in like manner as the manor of Boardfield and Otterden, to Granville Wheler, eſq. who in 1778 alienated the advowſon of the church of Otterden, with the chapels of Boardfield and Monkton annexed, to Edward Brydges, eſq. of Wotton-court, who died in 1781, and his eldeſt ſon, the Rev. Edw. Timewell Brydges, rector of this pariſh, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

MONKETON is another hamlet, ſituated at the north-weſt extremity of this pariſh, which was formerly likewiſe accounted a pariſh of itſelf. The manor of it, which extends into the pariſh of Newnham, ſeems to have been given by Ralph Picot, to the abbey of Faverſham, at or ſoon after the foundation of it, and this gift was confirmed to it by Henry II. in his 11th year.

It has for many years had the ſame owners, as the manor of Sharſted, in Doddington, and paſſing in like manner from the family of Delaune, to that of Thornicroft, and from thence, ſince the death of Mrs. Anne Thornicroft in 1791, it came to her nephew,

Alured

Alured Pinke, eſq. now of Sharſted, the preſent poſſeſſor of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

FRID-FARM is an eſtate in this hamlet, being part of a conſiderable parcel of land here, in Newnham and in Eaſling, which was the property of Matthew, ſon of Hamon atte Frith, who in the reign of king Henry III. gave it, by the deſcription of, all that land, with the mill ſtanding on it, and all other its appurtenances, in Monketon, to the *nunnery of Davinton*, which gift was confirmed by king Henry III. in his 39th year.

After this nunnery had eſcheated to the crown in the 27th year of Henry VIII. the king granted the ſcite of it and this eſtate, among the other poſſeſſions of it, in his 35th year, to Sir Thomas Cheney, to hold *in capite* by knight's ſervice, who in the 1ſt year of queen Elizabeth died poſſeſſed of this eſtate at Monkton, then known by the name of *Fryde-farm*, corruptly, no doubt, for Fryth's farm, being ſo named from the antient owner of it, above-mentioned, and was ſucceeded in it by his only ſon Henry, created lord Cheney, who in the 3d year of that reign, having levied a fine of all his lands,[g] ſoon afterwards alienated this eſtate to Godden, from which name it was, not long afterwards, paſſed away to George Chute, or Choute, eſq. of Betherſden, whoſe deſcendant, Edw. Chute, eſq. of that place, who died in the reign of Charles II. leaving Elizabeth his daughter, and at length ſole heir, ſhe entitled her huſband Sir James Oxenden, knight and baronet, to the poſſeſſion of it. In which name and family this eſtate has continued down to Sir Henry Oxenden, bart. of Broome, in Barham, who is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.[h]

The church of Monketon has been long dilapidated, though the exact ground plot of it is ſtill viſible, hav-

[g] See more of the Cheneys under Eaſtchurch in Shepey.
[h] See more of this family under Wingham and Barham.

ing

ing two very large yew-trees near it. It is ſituated in a wood of about half an acre.

The rectory of this church belonged to the *nunnery of Davington*, and after the eſcheating of it to the crown, was granted, in the 35th year of Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Cheney, together with Fryde-farm, as before-mentioned, to hold in like manner. His ſon Henry, lord Cheney, ſold it to Godden, who alienated the advowſon of this rectory, then eſteemed as *a chapel* to the church of Otterden, with ſome eſtate likewiſe in Monketon, to William Lewin, LL. D. after which it paſſed, in like manner as Otterden manor and place, in the ſame chain of ownerſhip, to Granville Wheler, eſq. who alienated the advowſon of the church of Otterden, with this chapel, and Monketon annexed, to Edward Brydges, eſq. of Wotton, whoſe eldeſt ſon, the Rev. Edward Timewell Brydges, rector of this pariſh, is the preſent owner of it.

HALL-PLACE is a ſeat ſituated in the ſouth-eaſt part of this pariſh, which was formerly eſteemed a manor, though it has for many years loſt the reputation of ever having been one.

At the time it had tenants and ſervices belonging to it, this manor was the property of Roger Rey, as appears by an antient roll without date, in which mention is made of one Thomas Franklyn, who held ſome lands of this manor by the yearly rent and ſervice of *one red roſe*.

In the reign of Henry VII. this eſtate of Hall-place, then no longer reputed a manor, was the property of Cock, and in the 19th year of it, Eugenius Cock ſold it to John Bunce, gent. of this pariſh, the ſon of Edward Bunce, who left his reſidence at Malmeſbury, and came firſt into this county. They bore for their arms, *Azure, on a feſs, argent, three eagles diſplayed of the firſt, between three bears of the ſecond.*[1]

[1] Viſtn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedigree Bunce.

His

His only ſon James Bunce was of Otterden, where he died in 1606, and was buried in the ſouth chancel of this church, uſually called Bunce's chancel, from their burials in it. He left ſeveral ſons and daughters, of whom Simon, the eldeſt ſon, became his heir; James was of London, and anceſtor of the Bunces of Otterden and of Kemſing; and Stephen reſided at Boughton Malherb, and dying in 1634, was buried at Throwley, to the Bunces of which place he was anceſtor. Simon, his eldeſt ſon and heir, died poſſeſſed of this ſeat in 1611, and was buried in the chancel above-mentioned, leaving Anne, his only daughter and heir, married to William Brockman, ſon and heir of Henry Brockman, eſq, of Newington, near Hythe.

Soon after which, this ſeat was alienated to Mr. Paine, who was ſteward to Charles, lord Mansfield, and afterwards to Charles, duke of Richmond, owners of Otterden manor, the latter of whom made a conſiderable addition to this ſeat at his own expence, building a large and coſtly room to it, as a gift to the owner of it.

In his deſcendants reſident at this ſeat, who all lie buried in this church, and bore for their arms, *A feſs, between three leopards heads*, it continued down to Charles Paine, eſq. who reſided at it likewiſe, and died unmarried in 1741. Having no relations to inherit his eſtates, he deviſed this ſeat, among the reſt of them, by his laſt will, to Chriſtopher Creſwell, a youth at that time in his family, and afterwards an officer in the army, who took on him the name of Paine, and died poſſeſſed of it, and unmarried, in 1764, and by his will deviſed this ſeat among his relations, and they not long afterwards, joined in the ſale of it to the Rev. James Stephen Luſhington, who reſided here for ſome years, and then alienated it to the Rev. Wanley Sawbridge, ſecond ſon of John Sawbridge, eſq. of Ollantigh, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1796, unmarried,

unmarried, and dying inteſtate, it deſcended to his nephews, Samuel-Elias and Wanley Sawbridge, eſqrs. who are the preſent poſſeſſors of it.

HERST is a manor in the weſt part of this pariſh, which in the reign of Richard II. was poſſeſſed by Richard at Loſe, who by his will in the 18th year of that reign, directed it to be ſold, which it moſt probably was, to one of the family of Filmer, who ſeem to have been reſident here ſoon afterwards, for by an old court-roll of the adjoining manor of Monketon, which by its look ſeemed to be of that time, though the date of it was not legible, there was mention made of one Robert Filmour, for ſo the name was then ſpelt, who was then poſſeſſed of land in this pariſh, held of that manor, and there are at this time ſeveral of this name reſiding in this pariſh and its neighbourhood, who though now claſſed among the yeomen-freeholders, are probably deſcended from thoſe of this name, ſeated at Herſt, as above-mentioned.

The Filmers continued reſident at Herſt till Robert Filmer, eſq. one of the prothonotaries of the common pleas, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, having purchaſed an eſtate in Eaſt Sutton, by Maidſtone, removed thither; but it continued the property of his deſcendants till Sir Robert Filmer, bart. at the latter end of the reign of king Charles II. parted with it to the Rev. John Rumney, vicar of Sutton Valence, whoſe widow Amy ſold it, in 1702, to Mr. Henry Knowles, whoſe ſon Mr. Richard Knowles, in 1763, conveyed it by ſale to the Rev. Granville Wheler, eſq. of Otterden-place, who with his eldeſt ſon, Granville Wheler, eſq. next year conveyed it to the Rev. John Lowther, rector of this pariſh, for the uſe of him and his ſucceſſors, rectors of the pariſh of Otterden, for ever. This eſtate conſiſts of about one hundred and ſixty-eight acres of land, and was ſold for 1100l. of which 1000l. was the benefaction of lady

lady Elizabeth Haſtings, and the remaining part of the Rev. Granville Wheler, eſq. before-mentioned.

There has been, till almoſt within memory, a court baron held for this manor, though it has been diſuſed for ſome years paſt.

BUNCES-COURT, alias POLLARDS, is a ſeat in this pariſh, which ſtands near a mile ſouthward from Otterden-place. It was formerly the property of the family of Bunce, who reſided at it for ſome years, whence it acquired the name of *Bunces-court*. They had likewiſe before been poſſeſſed of Hall-place, in this pariſh, in the deſcription of which, an account of them has already been given, down to Simon Bunce, the eldeſt ſon of James Bunce, gent. of Otterden, who ſeems to have deviſed this ſeat to his ſecond ſon James Bunce, who was a merchant of London, which city he repreſented in parliament. He died poſſeſſed of it in 1631, having by his will been a good benefactor to this pariſh. He was ſucceeded in this eſtate by his eldeſt ſon James Bunce, eſq. ſheriff of London anno 19 Charles I. and afterwards an alderman of that city, who being a zealous loyaliſt, endured much perſecution, and was impriſoned in the tower, and his eſtates declared forfeited for high treaſon.

After the reſtoration of king Charles II. he was reſtored to his place of alderman, and to his eſtates, and received the honor of knighthood; and as a further conſideration of his ſufferings for the royal family, he had a warrant for a baronet's patent, which neither he, nor any of his deſcendants, ever took out. He left by Sarah his wife, daughter of Tho. Gipps, eſq. two ſons, Sir James Bunce, knt. who ſucceeded to his father's poſſeſſions at Kemſing, in this county, where his deſcendants ſtill remain; and John, who became by his father's will poſſeſſed of this ſeat of Bunces-court, where he reſided from time to time, but afterwards removing to Eaſt Greenwich, he alienated this ſeat to Mr. Roger Paine, of Hall-place, in this pariſh,

who in the beginning of the preſent century alienated it to Knocke, in which name it continued till Mr. Richard Knocke, about the year 1756, paſſed it away by ſale to Edward Chapman, eſq. who made great additions to it, and afterwards reſided here. He ſold it to Stringer Belcher, eſq. eldeſt ſon of Edward Belcher, eſq. of Ulcomb, who dying a few years ago unmarried, it came to his brother Mr. William Belcher, of Ulcomb, the preſent owner of it.

THE PRIORY of Rocheſter was poſſeſſed of lands in this pariſh, called *Prior and Goodman's lands*, which at the diſſolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. came into the king's hands, and were granted by him in his 33d year, among other premiſes, to his new-founded dean and chapter of Rocheſter, who are ſtill entitled to them, the preſent leſſee of them being the heirs of the late Granville Wheler, eſq. of Otterden-place, deceaſed.

CHARITIES.

MR. JAMES BUNCE, gent. citizen and leatherſeller of London, ſon of James Bunce, eſq. of this pariſh, deviſed by his will in 1630, to the Leatherſellers Company, of which he was a member, 350l. in truſt, that they ſhould pay 20s. yearly to the poor of this pariſh, 8l. per annum to the miniſter of it, for preaching three ſermons yearly, one on the day of the deliverance in 1588; one on the 5th day of November, and a third on the 17th of that month, and for catechiſing the children of this pariſh, twenty Sundays in each year, and for paying 10l. every tenth year, to the repair of the Bunce's chapel in this church, where his anceſtors lay interred, and the repair of the body of the church; and if the ſame was not demanded of them, then the whole produce of it to go to the ſupport of the poor of the Leatherſellers Company.

ROGER PAINE, ESQ. by his will in 1701, gave the ſum of 20l. to the rector, churchwardens, and overſeers of this pariſh, in truſt, for the intereſt of it to be applied to the relief of ſuch poor houſekeepers of it, as moſt regularly attended divine ſervice, &c. Charles Paine, eſq. his ſon and executor, with this money purchaſed of Henry Farley the elder, about four acres of land, called Wye-banks, and conveyed them to the rector and pariſh officers, and their ſucceſſors for ever, in truſt, for the uſes above-mentioned.

The poor conſtantly relieved are about fourteen, caſually 30.

OTTERDEN

OTTERDEN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Rocheſter, and *deanry* of Oſpringe.

The antient church was dedicated to St. Laurence, and conſiſted of two ſmall iſles and a chancel, without a ſteeple, and ſtood about fifty yards eaſtward from the corner of Otterden-place; this building being greatly decayed and ruinous, lady Elizabeth Haſtings, ſiſter of George, earl of Huntingdon, at the inſtance of the Rev. Granville Wheler, patron of it, who had married her half-ſiſter lady Catherine, among other acts of charity, deviſed by her will four hundred pounds towards the rebuilding of it. She died in 1739, and this ſum, with the intereſt of it, before any thing was undertaken for that purpoſe, amounted to near five hundred pounds, when Mr. Wheler undertook the building of an entire new church here, which was begun in 1753, and completed in about a twelvemonth's time, at the expence of five hundred pounds more out of his own purſe, which he liberally gave towards it.

The new church, which is a neat elegant building of brick, ornamented with ſtone ruſtic quoins, window-caſes, &c. is built, great part of it, on the foundations of the old church, which ſtood about twenty feet more towards the eaſt, the grave-ſtones over the two rectors being then within the altar-rails. There was no ſteeple to the former church, nor is there any to the new one, which, with the modern elegance of the building, takes away all appearance of its being a church, on the outſide view of it.

The monuments of the Lewins and Curteis's are preſerved in a ſmall receſs on the north ſide of the church, and have been well repaired and beautified, as has been the monument of Mr. Simon Bunce, and his wife, againſt the ſouth wall of it. There are many of this family buried in this church, the laſt of whom

were, Mr. Thomas Bunce, from Maidſtone, in 1706, and Mrs. Anne Bunce, from Throwley, in 1737; but the grave-ſtones of this family are now covered by the pews of this new church, which are, nevertheleſs, faſtened only with ſcrews, in order to their being removed when occaſion requires. There are ſeveral of the Paines, of Hall-place, likewiſe buried in this church. Underneath the church is a vault for the uſe of the Wheler family.

The rector was bound to repair the chancel of the old church.

The patronage of the church of Otterden was ever eſteemed as an appendage to the manor, and continued ſo till Granville Wheler, eſq. of Otterden-place, in 1778, conveyed it to Edward Brydges, eſq. of Wotton-court, whoſe eldeſt ſon, the Rev. Edward Timewell Brydges, rector of this pariſh, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

It is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 6l. 14s. 2d. and is of the yearly certified value of 62l. 17s. 10d. the yearly tenths being 13s. 5d.[k]

In 1640 it was valued at eighty pounds. Communicants ſixty-two.

The rector of Otterden is entitled to the great and ſmall tithes of this pariſh, including thoſe of the hamlets of Boardfield and Monketon, now within the bounds of it, the dilapidated churches of which, with their appurtenances, are now annexed as chapels to this rectory.

The ſcite of thoſe churches, and about three acres of glebe land to each, are now held by the rector, as part of the appurtenances of this rectory.

[k] Bacon's Lib. Regis.

CHURCH

CHURCH OF OTTERDEN.

PATRONS, Or by whom preſented.	RECTORS.
The crown.	*William Slayter*, D. D. Nov. 12, 1625, obt. February 14, 1646.[l]
George Curteis, eſq.	*Joſeph Heathfield*, preſented in 1668.
	S. Pearſe, in 1670, reſigned 1682.
	Thomas Robins, 1682.
The crown.	*John Symonds*, A. M. 1701, ob. Feb. 21, 1747.[m]
Rev. Granville Wheler.	*Deodatus Bye*, B. A. April 1748, reſig. 1748.
	John Lowther, November 1748, obt. Oct. 14, 1779.[n]
	Edw. Timewell Brydges, A. M. inſtit. March 30, 1780, the preſent rector.[o]

l Rym. Fœd. vol. xviii. p. 647. and in 1625 a diſpenſation paſſed for his holding the rectory of Newchurch with this of Otterden. He was treaſurer of the cathedral church of St. David, and was buried in this church. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 111.

m He was buried in this church, having been likewiſe 53 years vicar of Stalisfield.

n He was a good benefactor to this rectory.

o Patron of this rectory, and patron and rector of Wotton.

WICHLING

IS the next pariſh north-weſtward from Otterden. It is called in the book of Domeſday, *Wincheleſmere*; in antient deeds, *Winchelinges*; and in later ones, *Wynchelyng* and *Wichling*.

THIS PARISH is the whole of it ſituated in *the diviſion of Weſt Kent*, is much like that of Otterden laſt deſcribed. It lies upon the hill, cloſe on the eaſt ſide of the valley, through which the road leads from Oſpringe through Doddington to Hollingborne-hill and Maidſtone. The lands init are very barren, and

abound with flints, and on the weſtern ſide they are moſtly chalk, and much covered with coppice wood. It is a lonely unfrequented place, of but little or no thoroughfare, and what village there is, ſtands round a green near the church, at a ſmall diſtance from which is the parſonage.

THIS PARISH was part of thoſe eſtates, given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux, under the general title of whoſe lands it is deſcribed in the ſurvey of Domeſday as follows:

Hugo, the grandſon of Herbert, holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Wincheleſmere. It was taxed at half a ſuling. The arable land is one carucate, and there is in demeſne . . . . with three ſervants, and a church, and wood for the pannage of five hogs, and in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, there were three houſes in Canterbury belonging to this manor, paying forty pence. The whole in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, was worth one hundred ſhillings, and afterwards, and now, forty ſhillings.

Uluiet held it of king Edward, and could go whither he pleaſed.

About four years after taking the above ſurvey, the biſhop was diſgraced, and the king his brother ſeized on all his eſtates. After which, this manor came into the poſſeſſion of Jeffry de Peverel, to whom it was aſſigned for his aſſiſtance in the defence of Dover-caſtle, and with other lands made up the barony of Peverel, as it was called, being held of that caſtle *in capite* by barony.

In the reign of Henry III. it was in the tenure of John de Mares,[p] and after him of Fulk de Peyforer, in the ſame reign, whoſe deſcendant William Peyforer, in the 20th year of Edward III. held it of the king *in capite*, as three parts of a knight's fee, at Wichling, held of the honor of Peverel, and by ward

[p] Regiſter of St. Auguſtine's monaſtery, cart. 441.

to

to the caſtle of Dover. He alienated this manor ſoon afterwards to Roger Northwood, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 35th year of that reign, holding it by the ſervice before-mentioned. In his deſcendants it continued down to John Northwood, eſq. who died poſſeſſed of it anno 4 Henry V. leaving his two ſiſters his coheirs, who entitled their huſbands, John Barley, eſq. of Herefordſhire, and Sir John Norton, of this county, to their reſpective ſhares in it.

After which, the dean and canons of the college or free chapel of St. Stephen, in Weſtminſter, ſeem to have become entitled to this manor, which, in the reign of king Henry VII. was in the tenure of John Dygges, eſq. of Barham, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 19th year of that reign, holding it, as was found by the inquiſition taken after his death, of the above-mentioned dean and canons, by homage and fealty, and the ſervice of three parts of one knight's fee, and the yearly payment to the king's caſtle of Dover, as before-mentioned.

The dean and canons continued the proprietors of this manor till the diſſolution of their college, which happened in the 1ſt year of king Edward VI. in conſequence of the act for the ſuppreſſion of all free-chapels, colleges, chantries, &c by which they, as well as all their lands, revenues, &c. were ſurrendered up into the king's hands.

The year after which, this manor was ſurveyed by order of the king's court of augmentation, when it was returned, that it belonged to the late college of St. Stephen, and was of the yearly value of 6l. 6s. 8d. and that there was payable yearly out of it ſix-pence, to the ſheriff twenty-five ſhillings for blanch-rent, and 1½d. for caſtle-guard rent to Dover-caſtle.

King Edward VI. in his 3d year, granted this manor, with all its liberties and privileges,[q] among others

[q] Rot. Eſch. an. 3 Edw. VI. pt. 3. Coke's Entries, p. 106.

late belonging to the above-mentioned college, to Sir Thomas Cheney, with all its liberties and privileges, knight of the garter, lord warden, &c. whoſe ſon Henry, lord Cheney, about the middle of queen Elizabeth's reign, alienated this manor to Edward Filmer, eſq. afterwards knighted by that queen, who was of Eaſt Sutton, in this county. His great-grandſon Robert Filmer, eſq. of Eaſt Sutton, was created a baronet in 1674, from whom this manor has deſcended down to Sir Beverſham Filmer, bart. of Eaſt Sutton, the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

There are no charities belonging to this pariſh. The poor conſtantly relieved are about four, and caſually ten.

WICHLING is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Margaret, conſiſts of one ſmall iſle and a chancel, having a low pointed ſteeple at the weſt end of it. In it there is a memorial for Robard Filmar, of Wichelin, next brother to Sir Edward Filmer, the purchaſer of this manor, who died in 1615; and one likewiſe for Annys, widow of Raynold Filmar, (fourth ſon of Sir Edward above-mentioned) who died in 1616. This church ſeems formerly to have been an appendage to the manor of Wichling; however that be, the family of Northwood poſſeſſed the advowſon of it at the different periods of time in which they held the manor; and John Northwood died poſſeſſed of both anno 4 Henry V. *ſ. p.* leaving his two ſiſters his coheirs, who entitled their huſbands, John Barley, eſq. and Sir J. Norton to their reſpective inrereſts in them.

After which, this advowſon ſeems to have paſſed from them through the like chain of owners as the manor of Harrietſham, lately deſcribed, did, to William Stede, eſq. of Harrietſham, and from him to William Stede, LL. D. who in the year 1656 ſold it

to

to Thomas Conway, whoſe deſcendant Michael Wilkins Conway, in 1763, alienated it to Unwin, and he has ſince, for two hundred and fifty pounds conveyed it by ſale to Springhall, the preſent owner of it.

This rectory is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of twenty four pounds, the yearly tenths being 8s. 2d.

In 1640 it was valued at fifty-five pounds. Communicants thirty-ſix.

In Tanner's Monaſt. p. 208, mention is made of pat. 18 Edward III. p. 1. m. 10. *pro Capella de Wicheling*, among the poſſeſſions of Minſter nunnery in Sheppey.

CHURCH OF WICHLING.

PATRONS, &c. *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
James Partrich.	*Thomas Partrich*, June 3, 1585, obt. 1605.
Stede, family of, ...	*William Wilcocke*, A. B. Sept. 27, 1605, obt. 1628.[r]
	William Culpeper, February 8, 1628.[s]
The Crown, hac vice.	*Michael Hudſon*, A. M. April 22, 1653.[t]
William Stede, LL. D.....	*Thomas Conway*, A. M. Nov. 1, 1661.
The Crown, hac vice.	*Thomas Conway*, jun. A. B. Dec. 6, 1690, obt. 1711.
Mary Conway.	*Thomas Nicholſon*, A. M. Nov. 21, 1711, obt. 1763.
Edward Baker.	*Arthur Clarke*, A. B. Feb. 21, 1763, reſigned 1767.
Mr. Richard Shringhall.	*William Dormer*, A. B. June 2, 1767, obt. Jan. 12, 1788.
	William Wrighte, 1789, the preſent rector.

[r] He lies buried in this church.
[s] Walk. Suff. Clergy, pt. ii. p. 220.
[t] Rym. Fœd. vol. xix. p. 539.

FRINSTED

LIES the next parish north westward from Wichling. It is written in Domesday, *Fredenestede*; in antient deeds, *Freyhanestede*; and in later ones, most usually, *Frensted*, alias *Wrensted*.

That part of this parish northward of the church is in the *division of East Kent*, but the church itself, and the remaining part of it is in *that of West Kent*.

THE PARISH extends on both sides of the valley, called Syndall, or Newnham-bottom, through which the high road leads from Ospringe, through Doddington and Newnham, to Hollingborne hill, on each side of which the hills rise very steep, the summits of them being in general covered with wood grounds. On the east side of this valley, on the hill close to the woods, is Rinsted-court; and on the hill on the west, Yokes court, and Madams-court; and still further westward, the village and church. The soil of it is poor, and covered with flints, much like that of Wichling, before described; but the rising hills on each side of the valley are mostly chalk.

There is a district in this parish, consisting of about fifty acres of land, called *Minis-hill*, over which the manor of Whornes-place, near Rochester, claims jurisdiction.

This parish was part of those possessions which William the Conqueror gave his half-brother Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is thus entered in the book of Domesday, taken about the year 1080:

Hugh, the grandson of Herbert, and Adelold the chamberlain, holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Fredenestede. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is three carucates. In demesne .... Three villeins having seven oxen.

oxen. There is a church, and two acres of meadow and an half, and wood for the pannage of two hogs. It is, and was worth, ſeparately, twenty ſhillings. Leuuin held it of king Edward.

About four years after taking the above ſurvey, the biſhop was diſgraced, and the king his brother ſeized on this eſtate, among the reſt of his poſſeſſions, which were all confiſcated to the crown. After which, this manor came into the poſſeſſion of Jeffry de Peverel, and with other lands, made up the barony of Peverel, as it was then called, being aſſigned to him for the defence of Dover-caſtle, of which it was held by him *in capite* by barony.

Nicholas de Gerund afterwards held this manor, with the advowſon of the church, of which he died poſſeſſed in the 52d year of Henry III. holding it of the king *in capite*, as one knight's fee. After which, the family of Crombwell became poſſeſſed of it; one of whom, Richard de Crombwell, was owner of it in the 8th year of Edward II. being younger brother of Sir John de Crombwell, knight-banneret. Ralph de Crombwell, his ſucceſſor, next year, obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands in this pariſh, and at his ſeat here, ſince called Meriam-court, and now commonly, Madams-court.

In the next reign of king Edward III. this eſtate was again come into the poſſeſſion of the family of Gerund, in which, however, it did not remain long, for Richard le Gerund leaving an only daughter and heir Maud, ſhe carried this manor and ſeat in marriage to Sir Henry de Chalfhunt, who in the 20th year of that reign, paid aid for the manor of Wrenſted, alias Frenſted, with its appurtenances, holding it by the like ſervice, as did his deſcendant Henry de Chalfhunt, at his death, in the 9th year of Richard II. when it was found, that John Bedeford, Roger Tournour, Sibill Jarconville, and Agnes, daughter of Walter at Style, were his heirs and next of kin; at which time it was likewiſe

likewiſe found, that this manor was held of the manor of Oſpringe.

Soon after which, this manor, with the manſion-houſe, called Wrenſted, and now moſt uſually Rinſted-court, with Meriam, or Madams-court, and the advowſon of the church of Wrenſted, was conveyed by ſale to Robert le Hadde, who was reſident here in the reign of Henry IV. being deſcended from anceſtors who had been reſident at Chart Sutton, in this county, for many generations, Rob. Hadde being of that pariſh in the reign of Henry III. In his deſcendants this eſtate continued down to Henry Hadde, eſq. of Frinſted, who died poſſeſſed of this manor, with the advowſon of the church, and the other eſtates above-mentioned, in the 23d year of queen Elizabeth, leaving two ſons, Arnold and Matthew, who was counſellor-at-law, of Lincoln's-inn, of which he was rector, the former of whom ſucceeded him here, and two years afterwards, anno 25 Elizabeth, alienated this manor, with its appurtenances, together with the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, to Edward and George Hills. Arnold Hadde, eſq. after the ſale of this eſtate, reſided in St. Alphage pariſh, in Canterbury, as his deſcendants did for ſeveral generations afterwards, till the end of the laſt century, and ſeveral of them lie buried in that church. They bore for their arms, *Gules, three bucks heads caboſhed, or, horned argent, between the horns of each a croſs patee fitchee, argent.*[n]

Edward and George Hills joined in the ſale of the manor of Frinſted, with Rinſted, alias Wrenſted-court, and the lands belonging to it, to Edward Jackman, eſq. of Hornchurch, in Eſſex, and he, in the 5th year of James I. paſſed it away to Oliver Style, eſq. of Watringbury, who died in 1622. Upon the death of whoſe deſcendant, Sir Thomas Style, bart. who died in

[n] See Viſtn. co. Kent, anno 1574 and 1619, and Regiſter of St. Alphage's pariſh, in Canterbury.

1702,

1702, an agreement was entered into by his heirs for a partition of his eſtates among them, which was confirmed by an act, paſſed anno 2 and 3 of queen Anne. In this partition, the manor of Frinſted, with Rinſted-court, was allotted to Margaret, his only daughter by his ſecond wife, who in 1716 ſold it to Mr. Abraham Tilghman, deſcended from thoſe of Snodland. He was a commiſſioner of the navy, and of the victualling-office, and dying in 1729, was buried in the ſouth iſle of this church, where there is a monument erected to his memory. He bore for his arms, *Per feſs, ſable, and argent, a lion rampant, counterchanged, crowned, or.* He was ſucceeded here by his ſon Abraham Tilghman, eſq. who reſided here till his death in 1779. He left by Olivia his wife, one of the two daughters and coheirs of Charles Finch, eſq. of Chatham, one daughter Elizabeth, who married the Rev. Pierrepont Crompe, of Newnham, in Glouceſterſhire, ſon and heir of Thomas Cromp, eſq. of Newnham, in that county, by Rebecca, the other daughter and coheir of Charles Finch, eſq. He bore for his arms, *Or, a chevron, voided gules, on a chief of the ſecond, three eſcallops of the firſt.* He afterwards reſided here, and died in 1797, leaving his widow ſurviving, who now reſides here, and one ſon Robert-Thomas, and a daughter, Henrietta-Maria, the former of whom is now entitled to the fee of this eſtate.

MADAMS-COURT, formerly called *Meriams-court*, as has been already mentioned, paſſed from Arnold Hadde in the 25th year of queen Elizabeth, with the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, to Edward and George Hills, and they joined in the ſale of Meriam, or Madams-court, to Archer, from which name it paſſed, in the reign of Charles I. to Thatcher, by a female heir of which family it paſſed in marriage to Batcheler, ſome of whoſe deſcendants lie buried in this church, one of whom, Mr. William Batcheler, at length alienated it to James Chapman, gent. of Milton, whoſe ſon Edward

ward Chapman, esq. of Otterden, died in 1765, leaving by his wife, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Dennis, of Leyborne, one son, James Chapman, esq. now of Faversham, who is the present owner of it.

YOKES-COURT is a manor in this parish, which in the reign of Henry III. was part of the possessions of Fulk de Peyforer, whose descendant William de Peyforer, in the 20th year of Edward III. paid aid for it as half a knight's fee, which he then held at le Yoke, in this parish, of the honor of Ledes.

He soon afterwards alienated this manor to Roger Northwood, who died in the 35th year of that reign possessed of this manor of Yoke, held of the king *in capite*, by the service of making his suit at the gate of the castle of Leeds, from month to month, in lieu of all other service whatsoever. His descendant, John Northwood, esq. died possessed of it anno 4 Henry V. leaving his two sisters his coheirs, who entitled their husbands, John Barley, esq. of Hertfordshire, and Sir John Norton, of this county, to their respective shares of their brother's estates.

From one of them this manor was alienated to John Dyggs, esq. of Barham, whose descendant James Dyggs, esq. of Barham, died in the 27th year of Henry VIII. then holding this manor *in capite* by knight's service. He left two sons, John, who was of Barham, and Leonard, whose descendants were of Chilham-castle. His son John Dyggs, the eldest, succeeded him in this manor, and died in his life-time, leaving a son William, whose son Christopher Diggs, esq. of Barham, having levied fines of all his lands anno 15 and 17 Elizabeth, quickly afterwards alienated this manor to Archer, from which name, in the reign of Charles I. it passed by sale to Thatcher, of which name there were inhabitants of the adjoining parish of Wormsell, as appears by the parish register there, as early as king Henry the VIIIth's reign. These of Frinsted bore for their arms, *Gules, a cross moline, argent, on a chief, or, three*

three graſshoppers proper. In the name of Thatcher this manor continued, till by a female heir Mary, daughter of Thomas Thatcher, it went in marriage to Mr. Henry Bing, of Wickhambreux, on whoſe death, his ſon Mr. John Bing, became poſſeſſed of it. He died in 1766, and was buried in the north chancel of this church, leaving one ſon Henry, and two daughters; Mr. Henry Bing, the ſon, ſucceeded his father in the poſſeſſion of this manor, of which he is the preſent owner. A court baron is held for it.

CHARITIES.

JOHN WIATT, of Milſted, by will in 1722, gave the moiety of ſeveral pieces of land in Milſted, Frinſted, and Wormſell, containing about twenty acres, for ſending four poor children yearly to ſchool, to learn to read, veſted in the miniſter and churchwardens, and of the annual value of 2l. 4s.

The number of poor conſtantly relieved are about ſixteen; caſually twelve.

FRINSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Dunſtan, is ſituated weſtward from the village, but in the northern part of the pariſh; it conſiſts of two iſles and two chancels, the northern one belonging to the eſtate of Yokes-court, in it are ſeveral memorials for the Thatchers and the Bings. In the ſouth iſle is a monument for Abraham Tilghman, eſq. who died in 1729. Againſt the north wall in this chancel, in a receſs, is an antient tomb, with an engrailed arch over it. It has a ſquare beacon tower at the weſt end of it, in which hang four bells. In the church yard is an altar tomb; under it, in a vault, lie buried A. Tilghman, eſq. who died in 1779, and Olivia his wife; and the Rev. Mr. Crompe, and Henrietta-Maria, his daughter.

This church was formerly appendant to the manor of Frinſted, as has already been mentioned, and ſeems to have paſſed with it from Arnold Hadde, eſq. together

ther with the reſt of his eſtates in this pariſh, to Edward and George Hills, who alienated the manor of Frinſted, with Rinſted-court, to Edward Jackman, eſq. and Meriam-court, or Madams-court, as it is now called, together with the advowſon of the rectory of Frinſted, to Archer, from which name it paſſed with it, to Thatcher, in whoſe deſcendants it continued till Mary, daughter of Thomas Thatcher, carried it in marriage to Mr. Henry Bing, whoſe deſcendant, Mr. Henry Bing, gent. of this pariſh, is the preſent poſſeſſor of it.

In Strype's Stow's Survey, it is ſaid, that in the reign of Edward III. the church of Frethenſted, in the dioceſe of Canterbury, belonged to St. Catherine's hoſpital, near the Tower; and Tanner in his Monaſticon, ſays, in patent 3 Edward III. p. 2, m. 2, is a licence for appropriating that church to the above-mentioned hoſpital, which cannot be reconciled to the records above-quoted, in which the advowſon of the church of Frinſted is found to have been veſted in the ſeveral owners of the manor of Frinſted.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 9l. 11s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 19s. 2d. and is of the yearly certified value of 71l. 7s. 4d.

In 1640 it was valued at ſixty pounds. Communicants fifty.

CHURCH OF FRINSTED.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
Henry Hadde, gent.	*Ralph Brockhull*, May 14, 1580, obt. 1623.
James Cripps, of Northfleet, gent.	*Henry Lambe*, July 5, 1623
Bridges Lambe, for this turn.	*Richard Dawlinge*, April 29, 1645.
	Joſeph Slaughter, obt. 1661.
Simon Hohpen, gent.	*Iſaac Atkinſon*, Jan. 28, 1661, reſigned 1674.
Sybill Nightingale, widow.	*William Payne*, A. M. January 26, 1674.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	RECTORS.
Sybill Nightingale, widow.	*William Batcheler*, obt. 1747.[w]
Richard Tylden, esq.	*Thomas Baker*, A. B. April 1, 1748, obt. Jan. 1779.[x]
Henry Byng, gent.	*Edward Smith*, A. M. Nov. 1779, resigned 1787.[y]
	Richard Cook Tylden, A. M. 1787, the present rector.[y]

[w] Also rector of Milsted.

[x] He had a second presentation and induction to it on March 6, 1764, on his induction to the vicarage of Detling. He lies buried in Frinsted church.

[y] A dispensation passed in 1779 for his holding Milsted with this rectory.

WORMSELL.

WESTWARD from Frinsted, near the summit of the chalk hills, lies Wormsell, now vulgarly called, and as frequently written, *Wormshill*.

THAT PART of it northward of the church, including the borough of Bedmanton, is in *the division of East Kent*, but the rest of it, including the church and village, is in *that of West Kent*, to which division therefore this parish is esteemed to belong.

The parish is situated mostly on high ground, about three miles northward from the summit of the chalk hills, the high road through Newnham or Syndall-bottom towards Hollingborne, running along the southern part of it. It is a parish so obscurely situated, and of so little thoroughfare, as hardly to be known. Being exposed to the northern aspect, it lies very bleak and cold. The church stands rather in the eastern part of it, having the village, consisting of a few scattered houses, at a small distance from it; about a mile north-westward is the hamlet of Bedmanton. The hills here are continual, and very sharp, the soil much the same, as in the adjoining parishes in the like high situation before-described, only the flints, if possible, lie thicker on the ground; the land is poor, and in general let at

between five and ſix ſhillings an acre; at the northern boundary of the pariſh there is a conſiderable quantity of wood, conſiſting moſtly of hazel and oak, with numbers of trees of the latter, interſperſed among them, which are but ſmall, never here growing to any ſize. In Henry the IIId.'s reign there was a family reſident here, who took their ſurname from this pariſh.

Thomas Pepyr, of this pariſh, in his will anno 1460, mentions his chief place, called *Rychemonds*, with other lands here, which he gave to Julian his wife, and afterwards to Richard Pepyr, his ſon.

THIS MANOR was anciently eſteemed as an appendage to the manor of Boughton Malherb, which was held of the manor of Oſprinig, and they had both, for a length of time, the ſame owners.

In the reign of Henry III. Robert de Gatton was poſſeſſed of the manors of Bocton and Wormeſell, whoſe grandſon Hamo de Gatton dying without iſſue male, Elizabeth, his daughter and coheir, carried both theſe manors, with their appurtenances, in marriage to William de Dene, who in the 10th year of Edward II. obtained a charter of *free-warren* for his ſeveral manors in this county. Margery, the other daughter of Hamo de Gatton, married Simon de Norwood, and had all her father's lands in Surry. In one of the windows of the north chancel of this church are painted the arms of Simon de Norwood, *Ermine, a croſs engrailed, gules, charged with a bendlet, azure*, impaling *chequy, argent and azure*. William de Dene died in the 15th year of Edward III. holding theſe manors with their appurtenances, of the king *in capite*, as of his caſtle of Dover, and paying to the ward of it. Thomas de Dene, his ſon and heir, ſucceeded him in both of them, and in the 20th year of Edward III. paid aid for them, at the making the black prince a knight, as one knight's fee in Bocton and Wormſell, which Hamo de Gatton before held of the king. He died poſſeſſed of them in the 23d year of it.

The

The heirs of his ſon Thomas de Dene alienated theſe manors, with their appurtenances, to Robert Corbie, whoſe ſon and heir Robert Corbie, of Boughton Malherb, leaving an only daughter and heir Joan, ſhe carried them in marriage to Sir Nicholas Wotton, twice lord-mayor of London. His ſon Nicholas Wotton, eſq. alienated this manor, together with the advowſon of the church of Wormeſell, to Thomas St. Nicholas, of Thorne, in Thanet, whoſe ſon and heir Roger St. Nicholas left an only daughter Elizabeth, who carried this eſtate in marriage to John Dingley, alias Dyneley, whoſe deſcendant Francis Dingley, eſq. of Charlton, in Worceſterſhire, paſſed it away, at the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, to William Sedley, eſq. of the Friars, in Aylesford, created a baronet in 1611, in which name and family it continued down to Sir Charles Sedley, of St. Giles's in the Fields, London, great-grandſon of Richard Sedley, younger brother of Sir Wm. Sedley, bart. of Aylesford, before-mentioned. He was created a baronet in 1702, and afterwards reſided at the antient family ſeat of Scadbury, in Southfleet. He alienated this manor, with the advowſon of the church, about the year 1712, to the preſident and governors of Chriſt's hoſpital, in London, for the benefit of that charity, part of the revenues of which it remains at this time. It ſtill pays a caſtle-guard rent to Dover-caſtle. A court baron is ſtill held for this manor.

BEDMANTON is a borough in this pariſh, which includes within its bounds the manor of that name, which has ever been eſteemed as an appendage to the manor of Bobbing, with which it has been many years in the poſſeſſion of the family of Tyndale, of North Cerney, in Glouceſterſhire, the preſent owner of it being lieutenant-colonel William Tyndale, eſq. of that place.

Part of this borough is within the manor of Newington, near Sittingborne, as appears by the ſurvey taken in 1650, of the late king's manors and revenues, the ſeveral freeholders of the borough of Bedmanton,

in this pariſh, holding their lands in it, of that manor, in *free ſocage* tenure.

CHARITIES.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave land to be applied to the uſe of the poor, veſted in Henry Bing, and of the annual produce of 2l. The poor conſtantly relieved are about ten; caſually twelve.

WORMSELL is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is dedicated to St. Giles, and conſiſts of two iſles and two chancels, having a tower ſteeple at the weſt end of it. There are remains of good painted glaſs in the great eaſt window. Several of the family of Tylden lie buried in it, they were for ſome time tenants of the manor here, where they reſided till king James the Iſt.'s reign, when they removed to Milſted. In the church yard are ſome tombs of the Thatcher's, and for the Woods who reſided at Northwood, in this pariſh and Bicknor.

The patronage of this rectory has always been accounted an appendage to the manor, and as ſuch has had the ſame owners, as has been already related, being now in the patronage of the preſident and governors of Chriſt's hoſpital.

The rectory is valued in the king's books at ten pounds, and the yearly tenths at one pound, and is of the yearly certified value of 69l. 4s.

In 1640 it was valued at ſeventy-ſix pounds. Communicants ſeventy-three. It is now worth about two hundred guineas per annum.

CHURCH OF WORMSELL.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
James Tong, gent. for this turn ...	*Robert Reader*, Aug. 2, 1580, obt. Sept. 6, 1607.[a]

[a] He lies buried in the chancel of this church.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	RECTORS.
Anne Keele, widow.	*Bartholomew Newman*, A. M. Feb. 10, 1607, obt. April 8, 1654.[z]
	Richard Wilkinson.
	T. Nightingale, A. M. obt. 1673.
Sir Charles Sedley, bart.	*William Payne*, A. M. August 19, 1673, resigned 1681.
The Archbishop, by lapse.	*Giles Hinton*, S. T. P. Jan. 23, 1681, obt. 1701.
Joseph Ayloffe, esq. and others.	*Edward Christmas*, A. M. March 10, 1701, obt. 1715.
	Richard Wood, A. M. Sept. 1, 1715, obt. 1721.
President and Governors of Christ's hospital.	*Thomas Saul Hancock*, A. M. Dec. 1, 1721, obt. Aug. 15, 1741.[a]
	Isaac Johnson, A. M. obt. 1767.[b]
	Thomas Miller, A. M. July 23, 1767, obt. April 26 1792.
	Josiah Distornell, A. M. May, 1792, the present rector.

[z] He lies buried in the chancel of this church.

[a] He was presented to the vicarage of Hollingborne in 1727, and was buried in the chancel of this church.

[b] Also vicar of St. Dunstan's, near Canterbury, by dispensation.

BICKNOR.

THE next parish north-westward is Bicknor, antiently written *Bykenore*, the south-west part of which is in the hundred of Eyhorne, *and division of West-Kent*; and the remainder in that of Milton, and *division of East Kent*; but the church and village being situated in the former part of it, this parish is esteemed to be in *the division of West Kent*.

BICKNOR is an obscure remote place, lying a little more than two miles northward from the summit of the chalk hills. It lies among the woods, mostly on high ground, and though with much hill and dale, yet the

the former are neither ſo ſteep nor ſo frequent as in Wormſhill, and the adjoining pariſhes before deſcribed. It is a very healthy ſituation, but the ſoil is very poor, conſiſting moſtly of an unfertile red earth, much intermixed with flints. The church and adjoining village, of only five or ſix houſes, ſtand on the ſouthern ſide of the pariſh, about a mile northward from which is the hamlet of Dean-bottom; near the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the village is a large quantity of wood ground, called Bicknor-wood, beſides which there are ſeveral other ſmall parcels of wood-ground, interſperſed in different parts of it, equally poor with the reſt of the lands in it; in the northern part of the pariſh is an eſtate called *Northwood*, lately belonging to the Chambers's, of Tunſtall.

THIS PLACE was anciently part of the poſſeſſions of a family of the ſame name. Sir John de Bicknor held it, as half a knight's fee, in the reign of Edward I. and he, as well as Sir Thomas de Bicknor, accompanied that king to the ſiege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, in the 28th year of his reign, and are regiſtered in the roll of thoſe knights, who were made bannerets there by that prince. Their arms, being *Ermine, on a chief azure, three lions rampant, argent*, are ſtill remaining on the roof of Canterbury cloyſters.

In the 1ſt and 4th years of Edward II. Alexander de Bykenore, clerk, was treaſurer of the exchequer in Ireland, and Thomas de Bykenore, in the 5th year of that reign, married Joane, eldeſt daughter and heir of Hugh de Mortimer, of Caſtle Richard. But before this, at the latter end of Edward I.'s reign, Bicknor was become the property of the family of Leyborne, one of whom, William de Leyborne, died poſſeſſed of it in the 3d year of Edward II. His ſon Thomas died in his life-time, ſo that his grand-daughter Juliana became his heir, and from her great inheritance was called *the Infanta of Kent*. She died without iſſue by either of her huſbands, all of whom ſhe ſurvived, and poſſeſſed in

in her own right of this manor, in the 41ſt year of Edward III. but no one being found who could claim it as heir to her, it eſcheated to the crown, where it remained till the king, in his 50th year, granted it, among other premiſes, to the abbey of St. Mary Graces, on Tower-hill, then founded by him, by whom it was quickly afterwards demiſed to Sir Simon de Burley, for a term of years, which becoming forfeited by his attainder, Richard II. in his 12th and 22d years, granted and confirmed this manor to it, in pure and perpetual alms for ever.

This manor remained part of the poſſeſſions of the above-mentioned monaſtery till the diſſolution of it in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it was ſurrendered into the king's hands, together with all the lands and revenues belonging to it. After which, the king, in his 36th year, granted the manor of Bicknor to Chriſtopher Sampſon, who in the 2d year of Edward VI. paſſed it away to Sir Thomas Wyatt, and he ſoon afterwards alienated it to Thomas Reader, of Bredgar, yeoman, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign conveyed it to William Terry, and he in the reign of James I. partly by ſale, and partly on account of alliance, ſettled the property of it on William Alderſey, deſcended of an antient family of that name, ſettled at Alderſey, in Cheſhire. His ſon, Thomas Alderſey, eſq. of Bredgar, gave this manor by his will to his ſecond ſon Farnham Alderſey, of Maidſtone, and he died poſſeſſed of it in 1686. His ſon, of the ſame name, alienated it, about the year 1718, to Charles Finch, eſq. of Chatham, whoſe daughter and heir Rebecca carried it in marriage to Mr. Thomas Cromp, of Newnham, in Glouceſterſhire, who was ſucceeded in it by his only ſon, the Rev. Pierrepont Cromp, of Frinſted, and he, in 1764, ſold it to Abraham Chambers, eſq. of Totteridge, in Hertfordſhire, who reſided here for ſome time. He died in 1782, and by his will gave this manor, among the reſt of his eſtates, to his

three ſons, Samuel, Abraham-Henry, and William, who afterwards poſſeſſed them jointly, and upon *a diviſion* made of them in 1795, this manor was allotted to the youngeſt, William Chambers, eſq. the preſent poſſeſſor of it. There is no court held for this manor.

There are no *parochial* charities. The poor conſtantly relieved are about eight; caſually three.

BICKNOR is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. James the Apoſtle, conſiſts of a nave and two ſide iſles, and a chancel, which is half the length of the church. The nave is double the height of the two iſles. There is a low pointed ſteeple at the ſouth-weſt corner of it.

It is a very antient and curious building, and appears by the ſhort and clumſy ſize, and baſes of the pillars, the zig-zag ornaments of their capitals, and the ſemi-circular plain arches in every part of it, to have been built in the time of the Saxons; indeed, the whole of it has marks of a very early period.

This church was antiently eſteemed as an appendage to the manor of Bicknor, and as ſuch was given, with it, by Edward III. in his 50th year, to the abbey of St. Mary Graces, on Tower-hill, where it remained till the diſſolution of that monaſtery in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it became part of the poſſeſſions of the crown, as has been already related, where the patronage of it has continued to the preſent time.

This rectory is a diſcharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of thirty-two pounds. In 1640 it was valued at fifty pounds. Communicants thirty-two.

The rector's houſe, or *hovel*, as it may more properly be called, is very ſingular and remarkably placed, for it is nothing more than a ſhed, built againſt the north ſide of the church, with a room projecting nearly acroſs

acroſs the iſle, and under the ſame roof; a miſerable habitation, even for the pooreſt cottager to dwell in.[c]

CHURCH OF BICKNOR.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	RECTORS.
The Crown.	*William Pettett*, A. M. Nov. 2, 1620.
	William Haughton, A. M. Mar. 7, 1636.[d]
	Stephen Newman, A. M. April 8, 1662, obt. 1669.
	Iſaac Bates, A. M. June 7, 1669, obt. 1674.
	William Elward, A. B. May 1, 1674, obt. 1704.
	William Barklay, Auguſt 28, 1704, obt. Oct. 23, 1718.[e]
	John Vigurs, clerk, Dec. 19, 1718, obt. Dec. 6, 1725.[f]
	David Williams, Auguſt 29, 1726, obt. 1742.
	William Marſh, March 10, 1743, the preſent rector.

[d] Rym. Fœd. vol. xx. p. 215.

[e] He lies buried in the north iſle of this church.

[f] He was before miniſter of Scilly. He died at Stockbury, and was buried in that church.

HUCKING

LIES the next pariſh from Bicknor ſouth weſtward, in the hundred of Eyhorne, and *weſtern diviſion* of the county. It is called in antient records, *Houkynnge*, and took its name from its high ſituation.

HUCKING is a ſmall unfrequented pariſh, but little known, lying cloſe to the ſummit of the chalk hills, cloſe to which the church ſtands, with two or three houſes near it, the reſt being interſperſed over different parts of it. It lies on high ground, being much expoſed to the bleak northern aſpect, and joins to that

[c] See an engraving of it, and of the church above, p. 323.

part

part of Hollingborne above the hills ſouthward. It has throughout a woody appearance, from the wide hedge-rows round the fields, and on the north-weſt ſide the pariſh joins to a large tract of woodland, which reaches up almoſt to the church, the whole of it is an unpleaſant dreary country, the ſoil of which is very poor, being chalky, and much covered with flint ſtones. The rents of it amount to about 460l. per ann.

THE MANOR of Hollingborne, which was given to the priory of Chriſt-church, in Canterbury, in the year 980, claims over this pariſh; ſubordinate to which is *the manor of Hucking-court*, late the property of the Rev. John Davis, of Mereworth, whoſe widow, Mrs. Anne Davis, ſold it to Baldwin Duppa Duppa, eſq. of Hollingborne-hill.

HUCKING, alias RUMPSTED, is a ſmall manor in this pariſh, which acquired its latter name from the antient poſſeſſors of it. Sir Edward Rumpſted held it in the reign of king Edward I. whoſe deſcendant, of the ſame name, was an eminent man in the reign of Edward III. How long it remained with them I do not find; but in the 3d year of Henry VI. it was in the poſſeſſion of Richard Peverell, and in the 25th year of it, Robert de Poynings died poſſeſſed of it, leaving Alianore, the wife of Sir Henry Percy, his couſin and next heir, who had thereupon poſſeſſion granted of this eſtate, among the other lands of her inheritance, and in his father's life-time he ſucceeded likewiſe by this marriage to the baronies of Poynings, Bryan, and Fitzpain, by the former of which titles he received ſummons to parliament.

On his father's death, in the 33d year of that reign, he ſucceeded him as earl of Northumberland, and having engaged warmly in defence of Henry VI. was ſlain fighting on the king's part, at the battle of Towton-field, in the 39th year of that reign, being at the time of his death poſſeſſed of this manor.

The next year, being the 1ſt of Edward IV. an act of attainder paſſed againſt the deceaſed earl, among others.

others. After which it became the property of the Peckhams, with whom it did not remain long, for in the reign of Henry VII. the title to it was veſted in Henry Vane, eſq. whoſe ſon Ralph Vane, eſq. with the conſent of his wife, conveyed it, in the 31ſt year of Henry VIII. to William Taylor, of Romney, ſon of John Taylor, of Shadoxhurſt, from which name it was not long afterwards alienated to Edmund atte Wood, who died in the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, and was buried in Hollingborne church, in which name it ſtaid till Richard Wood leaving a ſole daughter and heir Eleanor, ſhe carried this eſtate in marriage to Thomas Thompſon, and he, with her aſſent, in the 9th year of king James, alienated it to another William Taylor, whoſe ſon and heir, in the reign of Charles I. transferred his intereſt in it by ſale to Mr. John Stringer, of Goudhurſt, who gave it to his youngeſt ſon Mr. Thomas Stringer, of that place. His two ſons dying *ſ. p.* his daughter Katherine married to William Belcher, of Rocheſter, M. D. at length entitled him to this eſtate. He was ſucceeded in it by his eldeſt ſon the Rev. Stringer Belcher, rector of Ulcomb, who died in 1739, leaving four daughters his coheirs. They poſſeſſed this eſtate in undivided ſhares, of theſe one fourth part, which was poſſeſſed by Benjamin Neale Bayley, eſq. in right of his wife Anne, the eldeſt daughter and coheir was alienated by their ſon to Edward Belcher, eſq. of Ulcomb, younger brother of Mr. Stringer Belcher before-mentioned, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1778, and his only ſurviving ſon Mr. William Belcher, of Ulcomb, is at this time entitled to the fee of it.

Judith, the ſecond daughter and coheir, on her death deviſed her fourth part to her ſiſter Elizabeth Belcher, and ſhe is now entitled to that, as well as her own fourth part, being one whole undivided moiety of it; and the remaining fourth part was carried in marriage by the other ſiſter Sarah, to the Rev. Joſeph Milner, of Ayleſford, afterwards D. D. and he, in her right, ſtill continued

mued owner of it at his death in 1784, and by his will deviſed it to his widow, who now poſſeſſes it.

There are no *parochial* charities. The poor relieved conſtantly are about ſixteen; caſually ſix.

HUCKING is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton.

The church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and is *exempt* from the juriſdiction of the archdeacon. It has always been eſteemed as a chapel to the church of Hollingborne; the vicar of that pariſh being collated to the vicarage of the church of Hollingborne, with the chapel of Hucking annexed. Both together are of the clear yearly certified value of 70l. 16s. 8d.

STOCKBURY

IS the next pariſh northward from Hucking. It is called in the ſurvey of Domeſday, *Stochingeberge*, in later records, *Stokeſburie*, and now *Stockbury*.

The weſtern, which is by far the greateſt part of it, lies in the hundred of Eyhorne, and *diviſion of Weſt Kent*, the remainder of it in that of Milton, and *diviſion of Eaſt Kent*, over which part that manor claims, but the church and village being in the former diſtrict, the pariſh is eſteemed as being in *the former diviſion* of the county.

This pariſh lies on each ſide of the velley, called from it Stockbury valley, along which the high road leads from Key-ſtreet to Detling-hill, and thence to Maidſtone; hence it extends on the hills on each ſide, for more than a mile. It lies moſtly on high ground, and though expoſed to the northern aſpect, is not, eſpecially on the northern ſide of the valley, near ſo bleak and cold as the pariſhes on the hills, lately before-deſcribed, nor is the ſoil, though much like them, and very

very flinty in general, quite ſo poor; and on the north ſide next to Hartlip and Newington, there is ſome land much more fertile, partaking more of the loam, and much leſs mixed with flints; the ſides of the valley are covered with coppice woods, which extend round the weſtern boundary of the pariſh, where there is ſome unincloſed downe, being poor ruffit land, and a wild and dreary country.

On the north ſide of the valley, cloſe to the ſummit of the hill, is the church, with the court-lodge near it, and a ſmall diſtance further, on the north ſide of the pariſh, the village called Stockbury-ſtreet, in which ſtands the parſonage, and a little further Hill-green-houſe, the reſidence of William Jumper, eſq. having an extenſive proſpect northward over the neighbouring country, and the channel beyond it, the former owners of which ſeat will be mentioned in the deſcription of Yelſted manor hereafter; at a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from hence are the two hamlets of Guilſted and South-ſtreets, ſituated cloſe to the brow of the hill adjoining to the woods.

On the ſouth ſide of the valley the woodland continues up the hills, weſtward of which is the hamlet of Southdean-green, adjoining the large tract of woodland called Binbury wood. The *manor of Southdean* belongs to Mr. John Hudſon, of Bicknor. On the eaſtern ſide of the woodland firſt mentioned is the hamlet of Pett, at the ſouth-eaſt boundary of the pariſh, which was formerly the property and reſidence of a family of that name, Reginald atte Pett reſided here, and by his will in 1456 gave ſeveral legacies to the church towards a new beam, a new bell called Treble, the work of the new iſle, and the making a new window there. Near it is a ſmall manor called *the Yoke of Hamon atte Deane*, and upon theſe hills the ſmall manors are frequently called *Yokes*.

There is a fair for pedlary, toys, &c. formerly on St. Mary Magdalen's day, July 22, but now by the alteration

teration of the ſtyle, on Auguſt 2, yearly, which is held by order of the lord of the manor on the broad green before the Three Squirrels public-houſe in Stockbury valley.

On June 24, 1746, hence called *the Midſummer ſtorm*, the moſt dreadful tempeſt happened that was ever remembered by the oldeſt man then living. The chief force of it was felt in the northern part of the middle of the county, and in ſome few parts of Eaſt Kent. It directed its courſe from the ſouthward, and happily ſpread only a few miles in width, but whereever it came, its force was irreſiſtible, overturning every thing in its way, and making a general deſolation over every thing it paſſed. The morning was very cloſe and hot, with a kind of ſtagnated air, and towards noon ſmall, bright, undulated clouds aroſe, which preceded the ſtorm, with a ſtrong ſouth wind; it raiſed a torrent, and the flaſhes of lightning were inceſſant, like one continued blaze, and the thunder without intermiſſion for about fifteen or twenty minutes. When the tempeſt was over, the ſky cleared up, and the remainder of the day was remarkably bright and ſerene. From an eminence of ground the paſſage of the ſtorm might eaſily be traced by the eye, by the deſtruction it had made, quite to the ſea and the waters of the Swale to which it paſſed. Neither the eaſtern or weſtern extremities of the county felt any thing of it.

This place, at the time of taking the general ſurvey of Domeſday, in the year 1080, was part of the extenſive poſſeſſions of Odo, the great biſhop of Baieux, the Conqueror's half-brother, under the general title of whoſe lands it is thus deſcribed:

The ſame Anſgotus, de Rocheſter, holds of the biſhop (of Baieux) Stockingeberge. It was taxed at two ſulings. The arable land is . . . In demeſne there are two carucates, and five villeins, with nine borderers having two carucates. There is a church, and two ſervants, and one mill of ſixty-four pence. Wood for the pannage of

fifteen

fifteen hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth four poundss, now six pounds. Elveva held it of king Edward.

After the bishop's forfeiture of all his lands, which happened about four years afterwards, this place came into the possession of the family of Auberville, being held by them of Roger de St. John, as one knight's fee. Roger de Aubervill, or *de Albrincis*, was a man who held large possessions at the time of the general survey before-mentioned. William de Aubervill, his descendant, in 1192, anno 4 Richard I. founded the priory of Langdon, in this county, and his descendant of the same name died possessed of the manor of *Stokinburie* in the 36th year of Henry III. holding it by knight's service.

He left an only daughter and heir Joane, who carried it in marriage to Nicholas de Criol, a man of eminence in his time, who attending Edward I. at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, was there made a knight banneret for his services performed at it, and in the 21st year of it he was allowed, by the justices itinerant, to have *free-warren* for all his estate here, except one plough-land, which was called *Sranner land*. He died possessed of this manor in the 31st year of that reign, and Philipott says many of their deeds bore *teste*, from their castle of Stockbury, which means no more, than its being one of the castellated seats of the family, as did his grandson John, in the 9th year of king Edward III. at which time he spelt his name Keryell.

After which it remained in his descendants down to Sir Thomas Kiriell, knight of the garter, eminent for his services to the house of York, during the reign of Henry VI. but being taken prisoner at the battle of Bernards-heath, near St. Albans, fought anno 38 king Henry VI. in which the Yorkists were defeated, he was, by the queen's order, beheaded, notwithstanding the king had granted him his life, when it was found by inquisition, that he held this manor of the king *in capite*

capite by knight's ſervice, by homage, and paying to the ward of Rocheſter caſtle yearly, and to the king's court of Mylton. He died without male iſſue, leaving two daughters his coheirs, one of whom, Elizabeth, carried this manor in marriage to John Bourchier, whom ſhe ſurvived, and afterwards died poſſeſſed of it in the 14th year of Henry VII. holding it in manner as before-mentioned. Soon after which it appears to have been alienated to Robert Tate, who died poſſeſſed of it in the 16th year of that reign, holding it by the like ſervice. His deſcendant William Tate, who in the reign of James I. alienated it to Sir Edward Duke, of Coſington, in Aylesford, whoſe widow held it in jointure at the time of the reſtoration of king Charles II.

Her ſon, George Duke, eſq. alienated it to John Conny, ſurgeon, and twice mayor of Rocheſter, and ſon of Robert Conny, of Godmancheſter, in Huntingdonſhire. John Conny, together with his ſon Robert Conny, of Rocheſter, M. D. conveyed it in 1700 to Thomas Lock, gent. of Rocheſter, who bore for his arms, *Parted per feſs, azure, and or, a pale counterchanged, three falcons, volant of the ſecond,* and his widow Prudentia, together with her three ſons and coheirs *in gavelkind*, Robert, Thomas, and Henry, in 1723, paſſed it away by ſale to Sir Roger Meredith, bart. of Leeds-abbey, who dying *ſ. p.* in 1738, left it by will to his niece Suſanna Meredith, in tail general, with divers remainders over, in like manner as Leeds-abbey before-deſcribed, with which it came at length, by the diſpoſition of the ſame will, the intermediate remainders having ceaſed, to William Jumper, eſq. of Hill-green houſe, in this pariſh, who reſided at Leeds-abbey, and afterwards joined with Sir Geo. Oxenden, bart. in whom the fee of it, after Mr. Jumper's death without male iſſue, was become veſted, in the conveyance of this manor in fee to John Calcraft, eſq. of Ingreſs, who died in 1772, and by his will deviſed

it

it to his ſon John Calcraft, and he ſold it in 1794 to Flint Stacey, eſq, of Maidſtone, the preſent owner of it.

YELSTED, or as it is ſpelt, *Gilleſted*, is a manor in this pariſh, which was formerly part of the poſſeſſions of the noted family of Savage, who held it of the family of Auberville, as the eighth part of one knight's fee. John de Savage, grandſon of Ralph de Savage, who was with Richard I. at the ſiege of Acon, obtained a charter of *free-warren* for his lands here in the 23d year of Edward I. Roger de Savage, in the 5th year of Edward II. had a grant of liberties for his demeſne lands here, and Arnold, ſon of Sir Thomas Savage, died poſſeſſed of it in the 49th year of king Edward III. and left it to his ſon Sir Arnold Savage, of Bobbing, whoſe ſon Arnold dying *ſ. p.* his ſiſter Elizabeth became his heir. She was then the wife of William Clifford, eſq. who in her right became poſſeſſed of this manor among the reſt of her inheritance, and in his deſcendants it continued till the latter end of king Henry VIII.'s reign, when Lewis Clifford, eſq. alienated it to Knight, whoſe deſcendant Mr. Richard Knight, gent, of Helle-houſe, in this pariſh, died poſſeſſed of it in 1606, and was buried in this church; his deſcendant William Knight leaving an only daughter and heir Frances, widow of Mr. Peter Buck, of Rocheſter, who bore for his arms, *Argent, on a bend, azure, between two cotizes, wavy, ſable, three mullets, or.* He died ſoon after the death of Charles I. when ſhe entered into the poſſeſſion of this manor, after whoſe death her heirs paſſed it away by ſale to Sir William Jumper, commiſſioner of his Majeſty's navy at Plymouth. He had been knighted in 1704, for his ſervices, as well at the taking of Gibraltar, as in the haval engagement with the French afterwards, being at both commander of the Lenox man of war, who died at Plymouth, where he was buried in 1715. He bore for his arms, *Argent, two bars gemelles, ſable, between three mullets of ſix points, pierced, gules.* His ſon, William Jumper,

eſq. was of Hill-green-houſe, as it is now called, and died in 1736, leaving by Jane his wife, daughter of Thomas Hooper, gent. one ſon, William Jumper, eſq. of Hill-green, likewiſe, who ſold it, about 1757, to the Rev. Pierce Dixon, maſter of the mathematical free ſchool at Rocheſter, and afterwards vicar of this pariſh, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1766, leaving it in the poſſeſſion of his widow, Mrs. Grace Dixon, (daughter of Mr. Broadnax Brandon, gent. of Shinglewell), who ſoon afterwards remarried with Mr. Richard Hull, of London, who reſided at Hill-green-houſe, and afterwards ſold this manor, together with that ſeat, to William Jumper, eſq. the former owner of it, who now reſides here, and is the preſent poſſeſſor of both of them.

COWSTED is another manor in Stockbury, which was antiently written *Codeſted*, and was poſſeſſed by a family who took their ſurname from it, and reſided here. They bore for their arms, *Gules, three leopards heads, argent*; which coat was afterwards aſſumed by Hengham. William de Codeſted died poſſeſſed of this manor in the 27th year of Edward I. holding it of the king *in capite* by the ſervice of one ſparrow-hawk, or two ſhillings yearly at the king's exchequer, as did his ſon William de Codeſtede in the 3d year of king Edward III. when it was found by inquiſition, that he held this manor by the above-mentioned ſervice, and likewiſe a burgage in Canterbury, of the king, of the ferme of that city, and that Richard de Codeſtede was his brother and next heir, whoſe ſon John de Codeſtede, vulgarly called *Cowſted*, about the beginning of king Richard II.'s reign, leaving an only daughter and heir, married to Hengham, he became in her right poſſeſſed of it, and aſſumed her arms likewiſe.

His deſcendant, Odomarus de Hengham, reſided here, who dying in 1411, anno 13 Henry IV. was buried in Chriſt-church, Canterbury, and it continued in his name till the reign of Henry VI. when it was carried

ried, partly by marriage and partly by ſale, by Agnes, a ſole daughter and heir to John Petyte, who afterwards reſided here, and dying in 1460, lies buried with her within the Virgin Mary's chapel, or ſouth chancel, in this church. One of his deſcendants, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, ſold it to Oſborne, and Edward Oſborne, gent. died poſſeſſed of it in 1622, and lies buried in the north chancel of this church. He bore for his arms, *Quarterly, argent, and azure, in the firſt and fourth quarter, an ermine ſpot, ſable; over all, on a croſs, or, five annulets, ſable*; whoſe ſon, of the ſame name, leaving an only daughter and heir Mary, ſhe entitled her huſband, William Fagg, to the poſſeſſion of it.

His deſcendant, John Fagg, eſq. of Wiſton, in Suſſex, was created a baronet on December 11, 1660, and died in 1700, leaving three ſons, Sir Robert, his ſucceſſor; Charles, anceſtor of the preſent baronet, of whom an account will be given under Chartham; and Thomas, who married Elizabeth, widow of John Meres, eſq. by whom he left a ſon John Meres Fagg, eſq. of whom an account will be given under Brenſet.[g] Sir Robert Fagg, bart. his ſucceſſor, left one ſon Robert, and four daughters, one of whom married Gawen Harris Naſh, eſq. of Petworth, in Suſſex, and Elizabeth, another daughter, was the ſecond wife of Sir Charles Mathews Goring, bart. of that county. Sir Robert Fagg, bart. the ſon, dying *ſ. p.* in 1740, deviſed this manor, with that of Cranbrooke, in Newington, and other eſtates in theſe parts, and in Suſſex, to his ſiſter Elizabeth, who entitled her huſband Sir Charles Mathews Goring, bart. above-mentioned, to the poſſeſſion of them. He left by her a ſon Charles Goring, eſq. of Wiſton, in Suſſex, who ſold this manor, with his other eſtates in this pariſh and Newington, to Edward Auſten, eſq. who is the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

[g] See Kimber's Baronetage, vol. ii. p. 125.

IT APPEARS by the antient ledger book of the abbey of St. Auſtin's, near Canterbury, that the abbot and convent were antiently poſſeſſed of A PORTION OF TITHES iſſuing from *the manor of Cowſted* in Stockbury, which portion continued part of the poſſeſſions of the monaſtery till the diſſolution of it, in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when the abbey, with all its revenues, was ſurrendered up into the king's hands.

This portion of tithes, or at leaſt part of it, conſiſting of the great tithes of two hundred and thirty five acres of land, was afterwards granted in fee to Petytt, from which name it was alienated, with the manor of Cowſted, to Oſborne, and it paſſed afterwards with it in like manner down to Sir Robert Fagg, bart. on whoſe death *ſ. p.* in 1740, one of his ſiſters entitled her huſband Gawen Harris Naſh, eſq. by his will, to the poſſeſſion of it, whoſe ſon alienated it to Charles Goring, eſq. before-mentioned, and he ſold it to Edward Auſten, eſq. the preſent owner of it.

NETTLESTED is an eſtate here, which by the remains of the antient manſion of it, ſituated in Stockbury-ſtreet, appears to have been once a ſeat of ſome note. The family of Plot, anceſtors to that eminent naturaliſt Dr. R. Plot, poſſeſſed it, at leaſt as early as the reign of Edward IV. when William Plot reſided here, where his deſcendants continued till Robert Plot, gent. of Nettleſted, having, in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth, purchaſed Sutton barne in the adjoining pariſh of Borden, removed thither. His heirs alienated Nettleſted to Mr. Richard Allen, of Stockbury, whoſe deſcendant Thomas Allen, afterwards, with Gertrude his wife, anno 9 George I. alienated it to Mr. John Thurſton, of Chatham, whoſe ſon Mr. Thomas Thurſton, of that place, attorney-at-law, conveyed it to that learned antiquary John Thorpe, M. D. of Rocheſter, who died poſſeſſed of it in 1750, and was buried in the chancel belonging to this eſtate, on the north ſide of Stockbury church. He left one ſon John Thorpe, eſq.

of

of Bexley, whoſe two daughters and coheirs, Catherina-Elizabeth married to Thomas Meggiſon, eſq. of Whalton near Morpeth, in Northumberland, and Ethelinda-Margaretta married to Cuthbert Potts, eſq. of London, are the preſent poſſeſſors of it.[h]

THERE *is a portion of tithes*, which conſiſts of thoſe of corn and hay growing on forty acres of the lands belonging to the eſtate of Nettleſted, which formerly belonged to the almonry of St. Auguſtine's monaſtery, and is called AMBREL TANTON, corruptly for *Almonry Tanton*. After the diſſolution of the above-mentioned monaſtery, this portion was granted by Henry VIII. in his 36th year, to Ciriac Pettit, eſq. of Colkins, who anno 35 Elizabeth, paſſed it away to Robert Plot; ſince which it has continued in the ſame ſucceſſion of owners, that Nettleſted, above-deſcribed, has, down to the two daughters and coheirs of John Thorpe, eſq. of Bexley, before-mentioned, who are the preſent owners of it.

CHARITIES.

A PERPETUAL ANNUITY of 2l. 10s. per annum was given in 1721, by the will of *Mrs. Jane Bentley*, of St. Andrew's, Holborne, and confirmed by that of Edward Bentley, eſq.[i] her executor, payable out of an eſtate in the pariſh of Smeeth, which was, in 1752, the property of Mrs. Jane Jumper, and now of Mr. Watts; to be applied for the uſe of three boys and three girls, to go to ſchool to ſome old woman in this pariſh, for four years, and no longer, and then 40s. more from it to buy for each of them a bible, prayer-book, and Whole Duty of Man.

MR. JAMES LARKIN, of this pariſh, gave by will an annuity, payable out of the lands of Mr. James Snipp, to the poor of this pariſh, of 1l. per annum produce.

SIX ACRES OF LAND, near South ſtreet, were given by a perſon unknown to the like uſe, of the yearly produce of 2l. 8s. veſted in the miniſter and churchwardens.

h See an account of the Thorpes under Bexley. vol. ii. p. 167.

i Mrs. Jane Bentley died Oct. 29, 1721, and Edward Bentley, eſq. of Stockbury, on Jan. 18, 1735. They both lie buried in the north chancel of this church.

AN UNKNOWN PERSON gave for the uſe of the poor a cottage on Norden green, in this pariſh, veſted in the ſame, of the annual produce of 1l.

AN UNKNOWN PERSON gave for the like uſe a field, containing between two and three acres, lying near Dean Bottom, in Bicknor, now rented by Robert Terry, veſted in the ſame, and of the annual produce of 12s.

A COTTAGE in the ſtreet was given for the uſe of the poor, by *an unknown perſon*, veſted in the ſame, and of the annual produce of 1l.

The number of poor conſtantly relieved are about thirty-ſix, caſually fifteen.

STOCKBURY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sittingborne.

The church, which is both large and lofty, is very antient, and conſiſts of a middle and two narrow ſide iſles, a high chancel, and two croſs ones. The pillars and arches in it are more elegant than is uſual in country churches, and the former, on the north ſide, are of Betherſden marble, rude and antient. It has a ſquare tower at the weſt end, in which hangs a peal of ſix bells, and is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. In the great chancel lie buried ſeveral of the Hoopers, Knights, Bentleys, and Jumpers. The ſouth chancel belongs to the Cowſted eſtate, in which lie buried the Pettits and Oſbornes, and in the north chancel belonging to the Nettleſted eſtate, Dr. Thorpe and his wife, formerly owners of it.

The church of Stockbury was part of the antient poſſeſſions of the priory of Leeds, to which it was given, ſoon after its foundation, by William Fitzhelt, the patron of it.

Hubert Walter, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the reign of king Richard I. confirmed this gift, and appropriated this church to the uſe of the priory, reſerving, nevertheleſs, from the perpetual vicar of it, the annual penſion of one marc, to be paid by him to the prior and convent. Edmund, archbiſhop of Canterbury, confirmed

confirmed the above in 1237, anno 22 Henry III. and granted to them the further ſum of ten marcs from it, to be paid half yearly by the vicar of it,[k] which grants were further confirmed by the ſucceeding archbiſhops.

The church and vicarage of Stockbury remained part of the poſſeſſions of the above-mentioned priory till the diſſolution of it, in the reign of Henry VIII. when it came, with the reſt of the revenue of that houſe, into the king's hands.

After which, the king, by his dotation-charter, in his 33d year, ſettled both the parſonage and advowſon of the vicarage of the church of Stockbury on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rocheſter, with whom they now remain.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, after the death of king Charles I. this parſonage was ſurveyed, by order of the ſtate, in 1649, when it was returned, that the rectory or parſonage of Stockbury, late belonging to the dean and chapter of Rocheſter, conſiſted of a fair dwelling-houſe, dove-houſe, and other neceſſary buildings, yards, &c. and the tithes belonging to it, all which were valued at eighty pounds per annum, and the glebe-lands, containing one hundred and forty-four acres, were worth, with the above, 132l. 10s. all which premiſes were let by the dean and chapter, anno 16 king Charles I. to John Hooper, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of 14l. 5s. 4d. That the leſſee was bound to repair the chancel; and that the vicarage was excepted, worth fifty pounds per annum.[l]

The preſentation to the vicarage of this church is reſerved by the dean and chapter, in their own

[k] See the further confirmations of it in the Regiſter of Leeds priory.

[l] Parliamentary Surveys, Augmentation office.

hands;

hands;[m] but the parſonage continued to be leaſed out to the family of Hooper, who reſided there; ſeveral of whom lie buried in this church, particularly John, ſon of James Hooper, gent. of Halberton, in Devonſhire, which John was receiver of the fines, under king Philip and queen Mary, for the Marches of Wales, and died in 1548. He married Frances, daughter of Sir Thomas Roberts, of Glaſſenbury. At length, by marriage of one of the daughters of Walter Hooper, eſq. it paſſed to William Hugeſſen, eſq. eldeſt ſon of John Hugeſſen, eſq. of Stodmarſh. He reſided here till his father's death, when he removed to Stodmarſh, and he is the preſent leſſee of this parſonage, under the dean and chapter.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. the church of Stockbury was valued at 26l. 7s. 8d.[n]

It is valued in the king's books at 9l. 11s. per annum, the yearly tenths being 19s. 1½d.

In 1640 it was valued at eighty pounds yearly income. Communicants one hundred and ſixty.

CHURCH OF STOCKBURY.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
	John Crompe, reſigned 1616.
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter...	*Henry Pawſon*, A. M. June 27, 1616, obt. 1628.
	John Lorkin, A. M. March 26, 1628, deprived 1631.[o]
The King.....	*Thomas Lane*, A. M. April 2, 1631.[p]
	Chriſtopher Blackwood.
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter...	*John Maccubie*, A. M. June 27, 1631, reſigned 1638.
	Thomas Lorkin, A. M. Jan. 11, 1638, obt. May 8, 1670.[q]

m In the Conſiſtory-court at Canterbury, there is a terrier of this vicarage, dated May 20, 1630.

n Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 40.

o He held Lympsfield with this vicarage by diſpenſation. Rym. Fœd. vol. xviii. p. 1007.

p Rym. Fœd. vol. xix. p. 359.

q He was prebendary of Rocheſter, and lies buried in this church.

PATRONS,

PATRONS, &c.	VICARS.
Dean and Chapter of Rocheſter ...	*Robert Dixon*, S. T. P. Sept. 7, 1670, obt. 1711.[r]
	James Axe, A. M. Sept. 10, 1711, obt. 1716.[s]
	John Clough, A. M. April 10, 1716.
	Charles Birbeck, B. A. 1721, ob. Feb. 20, 1725.[t]
	Iſaac Finch, A. M. July 1725, reſigned 1737.[u]
	Chriſtopher Beeke, 1737.
	John Butler, A. M. 1737, obt. 1747.
	Richard Huſband, A. M. July 31, 1747, reſigned 1750.
	Cæſar Curtis, A. B. Auguſt 6, 1750, obt. 1759.
	Peirce Dixon, B. D. Oct. 22, 1759, obt. 1766.[w]
	Thomas Frank, LL. B. Dec. 16, 1766, obt. 1795.[x]
	James Jones, *A. M.* 1795, the preſent vicar.[y]

r He was prebendary of Rocheſter, and vicar of St. Nicholas, in Rocheſter.
s He was perpetual curate of Stroud.
t He was minor canon of Rocheſter.
u And vicar of Goudhurſt.
w And maſter of the mathematical ſchool in Rocheſter.
x And vicar of Borden.
y And vicar of Cobham, and uſher of Rocheſter grammar ſchool.

BREDHURST.

THE laſt pariſh undeſcribed in this hundred is that of Bredhurſt, which lies at the north-weſt corner of it, adjoining to the pariſh of Rainham northward, being wholly *in the diviſion of Weſt Kent*.

This place takes its name from its ſituation among the woods, *Brade*, in old Engliſh, ſignifying broad, and *hurſt* a wood, i. e. *the broad extended wood*.

The manor of Hollingborne claims over a part of this pariſh. Bredhurſt lies about two miles northward from the ſummit of the chalk hills, and joins that part of Boxley which lies above them; to the northward it joins

joins Rainham, the churches being about two miles and a half apart. The pariſh is ſurrounded by an extenſive range of woods, in it and the different adjoining pariſhes, the north-eaſt part of this pariſh being almoſt covered with them. It is ſituated in ſo unfrequented a part of this county, that it is hardly known to any one, it lies moſtly on high ground, and very cold and bleak. The hills here are very frequent and ſteep, the lands very poor and hungry, and the flint ſtones very numerous. The village is built round a green, with the church at a ſmall diſtance eaſtward from it.

Almoſt adjoining to the church-yard northward, there is a wood, where the inhabitants have a report, that there was once a village, called Bredhurſt town. Several wells are yet remaining in it.

At about a mile's diſtance from the church, is *Kemſley-ſtreet*, ſo called from a family who once reſided at it; one of them, Iſabella Kymſley, widow, of this place, by her will, in 1595, deviſed to her ſon John, the elder, two pieces of woodland in this pariſh, on condition, that he ſhould yearly keep a drinking on All Saints day at night, to the value of a buſhel and an half of wheat, and two buſhels of malt, and ſixteenpence in cheeſe, till 46s. 8d. ſhould be yearly laid out and expended.

The Kemſleys were buried in a chapel on the ſouth ſide of this church, in which there was formerly a braſs plate over Thomas Kemſley, eſq. of Kemſley-ſtreet, who died in 1586.

THE MANOR of Bredhurſt was antiently part of the poſſeſſions of the eminent family of Northwood, of Northwood Caſtenors, in Middleton; one of whom, John de Northwood, died poſſeſſed of it in the ſecond year of king Richard II. as appears by the eſcheat-rolls of that year. And in this church was once a braſs plate for William Northwood, and four of his ſons, who lie buried here.

Soon

Soon after which, this manor, with that of Merecourt, in the adjoining pariſh of Rainham, and the eſtates called Merethorne, now Mereſbarrow, was purchaſed, among others, by John, duke of Lancaſter, and others, feoffees in truſt, for the performance of certain religious bequeſts in the laſt will of king Edward III.

That king, by his letters patent in his 22d year, had endowed and completed the chapel which had been begun by his predeceſſor king Stephen, in his palace at Weſtminſter,[z] and made it a collegiate chapel, to conſiſt of a dean and twelve ſecular canons, and other miniſters, to pray for his ſoul and thoſe of his anceſtors and ſucceſſors; and he granted, that they ſhould receive at his treaſury as much as would ſupply them with food, and ſupport the burthens incumbent on them, until he could give them as much in lands and rents as amounted to five hundred pounds yearly income, to the performance of which he bound himſelf and his heirs, kings of this realm, and by his will enjoined the duke of Lancaſter, and others his feoffees. They, in compliance with the king's will, purchaſed the manors of Bredhurſt and Mere, among other premiſes in this county and elſewhere, in the beginning of king Richard II.'s reign, and then, in the 5th year of it, demiſed them to the dean and canons before-mentioned, for forty years, to the intent that the king might grant them in mortmain for ever. After which, by means of ſome falſe repreſentations made by Sir Simon de Burley, the king granted theſe manors to him, but he having forfeited them, with his life, for high treaſon, in the 10th year of that reign, that prince, by his letters patent, in his 12th year, at the petition of the dean and canons, granted to them the rents and profits of theſe manors, among others, to hold to them

[z] See Strype's Stow's Surveys, book vi. p. 54. Newc. Rep. vol i. p. 747.

as

as a ſufficient endowment until he ſhould otherwiſe alter it, or provide for them. And then, by his letters patent, in his 21ſt year, granted theſe premiſes to them for ever, for the performance of thoſe ſervices before-mentioned, and in part of the exoneration of the ſum of five hundred pounds to be taken at his treaſury as aforeſaid.[a]

In which ſituation theſe manors continued in the 1ſt year of king Edward VI. when an act of parliament having paſſed, as well anno 37 Henry VIII. as that year, for the ſurrendry of all free chapels, chantries, &c. this, among others, was ſoon afterwards diſſolved, and the lands and poſſeſſions of it were ſurrendered up into the king's hands, who afterwards, by his letters patent, in the 3d year of his reign, granted, among other premiſes, theſe manors of Bradhurſt and Merecourt, with their appurtenances, late in the tenure nure of Sir Chriſtopher Hales, to Sir Thomas Cheney, treaſurer of his houſhold, &c. He died in the 1ſt year of queen Elizabeth, and was ſucceeded in them by his ſon Henry Cheney, eſq. of Todington, in Bedfordſhire, who, together with Jane his wife, in the 12th year of that reign, alienated this eſtate, then held *in capite*, by the deſcription of the manors of Merecourt, alias Mereſcourt, Merethorne, and Bradhurſt, with their appurtenances, to Richard Thornhill, grocer, and Wolſtan Dyke Skinner, citizens of London, which by fines afterwards levied, were declared to be to the uſe of the ſaid Richard Thornehill, and his heirs for ever.

After which, Sir Henry Cheney, then lord Cheney, of Todington, granted and made over to him all and ſingular liberties, franchiſes, royalties, aſſize of bread, wine, and ale, green-wax, and all other privileges whatſoever, within the above manors, which he had ever poſſeſſed, or had in any ſhape a right to, which liberties

[a] Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 61 to 67.

were

were claimed by Richard Thornhill, eſq. and judgment was given in his favor by the barons of the exchequer, on a trial had in Michaelmas term in the 17th year of that reign, from him they deſcended to his ſon and heir Samuel Thornhill, eſq. who gave them by his will to his ſecond ſon Sir John Thornhill, of Bromley, and his ſon and heir Charles Thornhill, eſq. in the reign of king Charles II. alienated theſe manors of Breadhurſt and Merecourt to Sir John Banks, bart. on whoſe death in 1699, without male iſſue, Elizabeth his daughter and coheir, then married to the Hon. Heneage Finch, ſecond ſon of Heneage, earl of Nottingham, entitled her huſband to them. He was afterwards created baron of Guernſey, and earl of Aylesford, and died poſſeſſed of theſe manors in 1719, and his deſcendant, the right hon. Heneage, earl of Aylesford, is the preſent proprietor of them.[b]

There are no *parochial* charities. The poor relieved conſtantly are about eight, caſually ſeven.

BREDHURST is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *dioceſe* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of Sutton. It is *exempt* from the juriſdiction of the archdeacon.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a ſmall mean building, conſiſting of one iſle and one chancel, having a low pointed ſteeple at the weſt end of it, in which hang two bells; adjoining to it on the ſouth ſide there is a ſmall chapel, now ſhut out from the church, on the pavement of which are two graveſtones, which have been long ſince robbed of their braſſes, and are ſaid to have been placed in memory of the Kemſleys, of Kemſley-ſtreet before mentioned, the whole of it is now in a ruinous ſtate, without door or windows, and the pavement of it, which is much ſunk,

[b] See an account of the Finch's, earls of Aylesford, vol. iv. of this hiſtory, p. 429.

is

is falling into the vault underneath, and covered with filth and naſtineſs.

This church of Bredhurſt was antiently eſteemed as a chapel annexed to the church of Hollingborne, the rector of which is patron of it. It is of the clear yearly certified value of 37l. 1⁷s. 6d. and is a diſcharged living in the king's books.

In 1640 it was valued at fifty pounds. Communicants ſeventy.

This church is frequently mentioned as a perpetual curacy, but it is called *a vicarage* in the ſeveral ſequeſtrations of it, as well as in the books of preſentation and induction in the prerogative-office in Canterbury, and in the ſeveral wills of the incumbents of it, regiſtered there, they conſtantly ſtile themſelves *vicars of Bredhurſt.*

CHURCH OF BREDHURST.

PATRONS, *Or by whom preſented.*	VICARS.
Rectors of Hollingborne.	*William Lorkyng*, obt. 1551. *Richard Tray*, A. M. obt. June 19, 1657.[c] *William Elwick.* *John Vigars.* *Robert Ingram*, A. M. *Frederick Dodſworth*, 1763, reſigned 1784.[d] *John Tatterſall*, A. M. 1784, the preſent vicar.

c Sometime rector of Murſton, and afterwards of St. Maries, Hoo.

d Now D. D. and a canon of Windſor.

END OF THE FIFTH VOLUME.

BRITISH MUSEUM